Public Record Office.
Colonial Office.
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[P.443]

N 32) Saint Augustine 17 Decemr 1775

My Lord

Since my last of 25th October N°. 31. I have not been honoured with any Commands from your Lordship.

In my last Letter I had the honour of informing your Lordship, that I was preparing to meet the Lower Creek Indians at Picolata in this Province. I accordingly set out upon that Service the 7th November; but as the Season had proveneex-ceedingly rainy, the Roads were in many places impassable for some time, & we were at last ob-liged to Change the place of meeting. About the end of November Governor Tonyn and I met the Inhabitants of Six Villages. I have the honor of submitting a Copy of what I said at Meeting. I had many private Conferences with the Cheifs, and I find them exceedingly well disposed and they have engage to act as I shall direct. Many have followed me to Town and I am still much crowd-ed with them

[P.444]

I have also the honour of submitting to your Lordship Copies of the Instructions which I have sent to my Deputies in the Creek & Cherokee Na-tions which I hope will be Approved

I found no Argument prevail so much with

the Indians as telling them that whilst the present Disturbances continued they could not Expect to be supplied with Ammunition and other necessaries from Carolina and Georgia, and that it would be their own Interest to join His Majestys faithfull Subjects in restoring Government and good order, I humbly Submit to your Lordship's Superiour Judgement the propriety of stopping all Supplies of Ammunition and Indian Goods to the above mentioned provinces, for the Present, and that the Exportation of them, under proper restrictions, to the Floridas may be permitted. I therefor humbly request that your Lordship will be pleased to obtain His Majesty's permission for [p.45] Messrs Graham Johnstone & Company of London to Export for the Floridas 20 Tn weight of Gun powder and Forty thousand weight of Ball with three thousand Indian Guns which I have contracted for and are absolutly necessary for the use of my Department

The Indians are extremly pressing for my interposition between them and the Chactaws my Ideas upon which Subject I have submitted to Your Lordship and the Commander in Cheif and I wait for some Instruction in Consequence

I shall lose no time in settling matters here that I may be enabled to set out for West

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Florida in six weeks. I shall take Jamaica in my way and provide myself with some Specie without which no Bussiness can be transacted as Bills on Boston cannot be Negotiated at Pensacola

[Sir James Wright in a late Letter informs me that the Continental Congress has appointed Messrs George Galphin, Edward Wilkinson, and Mr Rea of Augusta all three Traders, to Superintend Indian Affairs in the Southern District / and that they were gone to Salisbury to [p. 44] meet the Commissioners for the Northern District, to consult upon the Measures to be pursued.]

I have the honour of being with the utmost Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most obedt. and most

humble Servant

John Stuart

The Earl of Dartmouth &c.a

Principal Secretary of State &c.a

Endorsed St. Augustine 17th. Decr. 1775. / Mr. Stuart. / (N.32) / Ry 19th. March 1776. / (3 Inclosures.) / Entd.

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[John Stuart]

Copy of the Superintendant's Talk to the Lower Creek Indians at a Meeting held at the Cowford 4th Decemr. 1775. [1775]

My Friends and Brothers Warriors and head Men of the Lower Creek Nation.

We are now again met to Smoke and renew old Talks I used upon former Occasions to smoke with you out of the beloved Pipe ~ I have it not now, I left it behind me at Charles Town, perhaps my Enemies have taken it, they would have taken My Life also, but happily I escaped, and now Meet you here ~ I have not brought the beloved Pipe, but I have brought a good Heart to this Meeting, my Thoughts are good; and I hope I see you in the like Disposition.

White Beads ~

When I met you upon former Occasions, I used to deliver you good Talks from the Inhabitants of Carolina Georgia and all the Provinces ~ I used to talk to You of Trade, to hear Your Complaints of Your Traders; to endeavor to remove all Thorns and Briars out of the trading Paths to Charles Town and Savannah; that You might be supplied with Goods and Necessaries of all Sorts, according to the Orders and Intentions of the great [p.2] King, who appointed me to see You well used and

obtain Justice for You —

I am sorry that I have no good Talks now to give You from the white People of Georgia and Carolina, they have shut their Eyes and their Ears they grope about in the Dark and refuse to hear the great King's Talks, they use his faithful Subjects and Officers ill, the have obliged me to fly because I am your Friend, and they know that you will listen to my Talks and follow my Advice —

The Goods, Arms and Ammunition which the Traders Usually carried amongst You, were made in England by the people of that Country — for the People of Georgia and Carolina cannot Make any — and by the great King's Permission and Order Ships used to bring them to Savannah and Charles Town every Year. Traders carried them Amongst Your Towns, and bartered them for Deer Skins, by which Means you found yourselves happy and your Wants Supplied. The People of England are Still in the same Disposition, they [illegible] sent out Ships with the / Usual Supplies of Goods Arms and Ammunition this Year also but the People of Georgia and Carolina would not suffer them to be carried amongst you — They are Enemies to the great King and all His faithful

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Subjects – They look upon You to be His ffriends and Children, for which Reason they stopped Your Amunition –

We are Now Met together as we often have been upon former Occasions – I used to tell you that all White Men, the King's Subjects were alike Friends to the red People – I cannot say so now – many of them are become Mad and Blind. They endeavor to make you Poor by Stealing your Amunition and Stopping Your Trade – They sent you a handful of Amunition as a great Favor – They sent You a handful of Your own Powder, not enough to Kill Bear or Deer to feed Your Children, far less to get Skins to pay Debts or purchase Necessaries with. I saw Your Situation, I was sorry ffor and took Com-passion upon You. I have got a little Powder. I sent ffor You to come and take it. I have also got a few other / Things which I shall give you; they [p. 50] will not make You rich, but they will shew that I always think of you and Study your good – I thought I saw my Friends in Distress! I thought I saw my Children Naked and hungry! I thought I saw them exposed to their Enemies without the Means of cloathing feeding or defending themselves. I could not be happy. I could not sleep. I could not rest until I should relieve them – I sent for you but before my Messenger reached Your Towns, you received

Talks from Georgia. The Governor's Talks are always good and you did Right to pay Attention to them, but who are those beloved Men who sent you Talks? I do not know them I believe them to be the same People who Stole your Powder — They are the King's Enemies and have no Right to send you Talks — Mr Galphin also wrote to you — Mr Galphin is a Trader but he is not a beloved Man; he tells you that he will Supply you, why then has he not sent you Ammunition? but I will tell you the Truth, he cannot Supply you, and you cannot have a Trade from Georgia untill the Rebells are reduced to [p 51] Obedience / And Reason; the sooner this can be effected, the sooner you will have plenty amongst you and be happy — In the Meantime I hope and expect that you will listen attentively to such Talks as I shall send you, to be delivered by your beloved Man Mr Taitt, or such other person as I may send amongst you and to none else — for he will have all Talks in charge from the Governors and me, and you are not to listen to any other; on my part I shall endeavor to get you a Trade from West Florida by which your Wants may be Supplied — but I expect that you will be attentive to my Talks and take my Advice upon every Occasion —

White Beads.

[p 54] Endorsed Speech to the Indians / West Florida 4th Decemr / 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (N° 32) of / 17th. Decemr 1775. / (1)

Secret and Confidential [p.55]

Saint Augustine 16th Decem~ 1775

Sir

It is now about seven Months since I received any Letters from You, so that I am entirly a Stranger to the Affairs of your Dis-trict — I have written You very fully upon dif-ferent Occasions and by several Opportunities, and Mr Henry Stuart would communicate to You the Business with which he is charged: but in Case any Accident should have prevented his writing to You, or Your having received my former Letters I am now to acquaint You that I have received Instructions to employ the Indians in my Depart--ment to distress His Majestys Rebellious Subjects by all practicable Means, that Government and the Constitution may be re established in the dis--tracted Provinces.

Altho' I do not construe this Instruction as an Order to attack the frontier Inhabitants of the provinces indiscriminately; by which Means the innocent might suffer and the guilty es-cape, yet in Consequence of it my Duty requires that no Time be lost in employing the Indians of the Different Nations to give all the Assistance in their Power to such of His Majesty's faithful

Subjects as may already have taken or shall here-
after take Arms, to resist the lawless Oppression
of the Rebels and their Attempts to overturn the
Constitution and oppose His Majesty's Authority.

Having had the strongest Assurances
[p.56] from You / in Your different Letters, of the Dis-
position of the Cherokee Indians to act for His
Majesty's Service when requested, and having the
greatest Dependance on Your Zeal, as well as your
Influence with said Indians: I desire and expect
that you will prevail upon them to march as
soon as possible to the Assistance of such of His
Majestys faithful Subjects as may already have
taken, or shall hereafter take Arms in Defence of
His Majesty's Government and Laws, and that
You will dispose them to join and cooperate with
such other Indian Tribes as shall be willing
to contribute their Assistance against the Rebels—
My Ideas upon this important Subject are fully
expressed in my Instructions to Mr. Henry Stuart,
with whom I beg You will consult and cooper-
ate when he arrives in the Cherokee Country.

You will deliver such Talks in my Name
to the great Warriour, Attahkullakulla, Oustene-
ka, Kittagusta, Ecouy, The Terrapine, The great
Raven, and other Head Men as you shall think

best calculated to answer your Purpose.

As Edward Wilkinson, George Galphin and Mr. Rea of Augusta, are appointed by the continental Congress to superintend Indian Affairs in the Southern District; they are acting under the usurped Authority of declared Rebels and consequently are to be considered in the same point of View; You are therefore Not only to oppose and counteract them by all / Possible Means, but to cause their Persons to [p. 57] be apprehended if in your Power, and in all respects treat them as Rebels.

You will acquaint the Chiefs that I shall use my Utmost Endeavour to procure for them the Necessary Supply of Arms Ammunition &c: and as I intend going to Pensacola early in the Spring, they may expect to hear from me from thence.

I must repeat to you the Propriety and Necessity of your writing me frequently and informing me fully of your Transactions and the State of Cherokee Affairs; which may be done by sending your despatches to Mr. Taitt in the Creek Nation: your Draughts upon me for Necessary and unavoidable Expence in conducting the above mentioned Services, shall be paid by Bills on His Excellency the Commander in

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Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America.
payable either at Boston or New-York.

I am with great Regard

Sir,

Your Most obedt. humble Servant.

(Sic)

Alexander Cameron Esqr.

[p. 58] Endorsed Copy of Instructions / Sent to Alexander Cameron / Esqr. dated St. Augustine 16th / December 1775 / In Mr. Stuarts (N.o 32) of / 17th Decr. 1775. / (2)

[No 9]

Private and Confidential)

St. Augustine 15th. December 1775.

Sir

I received both Your Letters by Morriac by whom I hope thes will be delivered. The Towns which attended at the meeting were the Cowetas Hitchitas Coussitas Ohihaws and Uschitas the Ap-palachicolas will be here in three or four days —

The enclosed is a Copy of my Talk at the Meeting; Morriac carries a Copy of the Govern's, which you may explain if you think proper. I have had several private Conferences with the Ohihaw Chief and Pumpkin King — the tenden-cy of which was to direct them to agree to what-ever the Warriors of the upper Towns should de-termine upon; which they have promised they would do, in conjunction with the head Men of the Coussitas.

I am now to acquaint you that I have received Instructions to employ the Indians in the Southern District in distressing the Rebels by all means in their Power when occasion offers. The present, when I am informed that a consi-derable Body of His Majesty's faithful Subjects have taken Arms to support the Constitution and Government in South Carolina seems to me

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[Lord Geo. Germain]

Whitehall April 16th. 1776 (No 62)

Governor of East Florida.
West Florida.
Bahamas.
Bermuda.
Jamaica.
Barbados.
St Vincent.
Dominica.
Grenadas.
Lieut. Governor of Tobago.
President of Antigua.
St Christophers.
Nevis.
Montserrat.
Virgin Islands.
Superintendt. of Mosquito Shore

Sir,

Mr. Mason who will deliver this Letter to you is Botanist to The King, and employed by His Majesty under His Majesty's own immediate direction to search for and collect Plants in different Countries.

He has already been at the Cape where he executed the Trust His Majesty placed in him very much to His Majesty's Satisfaction, and he is now going to Madeira and the Western Isles and from thence to the West Indies.

It is my Duty therefore to recommend him to your Protection, and to desire you will give him every Assistance that may be useful to him in the execu-

tion of the Commissions His Majesty has given him; And if he shall think it necessary to visit any of the French or Spanish Settlements in your Neighbourhood, It is His Majesty's Pleasure that you do, in that Case, give him a proper Letter of introduction to the Governors of such Settlements, fully explaining to them the Authority he has from the King, and the Object and intention of his visiting those Islands. —

[P 64]

[P 64] Endorsed Draft of Circular. / 15th. April 1776. / Entd.

N° 36) Saint Augustine 10 July 1776 [1 p]

My Lord

Some Years ago the Earl of Hillsborough required of me a Draught of the Boundary Lines settled with the different Nations of Indians in the Southern District, deviding the Lands which they chose to reserve for themselves from what they had ceded to His Majesty, this I found extremly difficult to execute upon any printed Map of the Provinces, where the Mountains Rivers &c which form the Natural Boundaries are either omitted or very erroneously laid down, I therefore did acquaint His Lordship, that from Materials which I had collected as well as Surveys which I had caused to be made, I was in Hopes of presenting him / with [1 p 2] a Map which altho not perfect might be better depended upon than any I had seen published More particularly for the purposes of pointing out the Situations of the different Indian Nations, the Lands claimed by each of them as hunting Grounds, the Boundaries between them and the different Provinces within this District; and the Limits of said Provinces as fixed by His Majesty's Proclamation. - His Lordship was pleased to signify his approbation of the undertaking, and I accordingly set about it but I found it greater and More difficult than I at first appre-

friended, which retarded the Execution of it. I have now the Honour of submitting such a Map to Your Lordship, and if it meets with Your Lordship's Approbation and Answers the purposes above mentioned I shall be very happy

Soon after my last return from West Florida, (p73) I sent to the Earl of Hillsborough a plan of that Country with a Sketch of the Indian Nations adjoining to it, which I hope was received.

Doctor Turnbull is good enough to take charge of this Letter and the Map, and will I hope have the Honour of presenting them to Your Lordship

I have the Honour of being with the greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships most
obedient and most
humble Servant
John Stuart

The Right Honble
The Earl of Dartmouth &c.a:

(p74) Endorsed St Augustine 10th Febry 1776 / Mr. Stuart / (N36) /
Rx 10th May / Entd

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N°35) Saint Augustine 19th Jan.y 1776 [A75]

My Lord

In my last Letter N° 34 I had the honor of acquainting your Lordship that a Number of Cherokees were about a Days journey from this Place on a visit to me. They accordingly arrived and met me with all the Affection and gratitude of real Children. After informing me of the many attempts by the Rebels to seduce them They gave me the strongest assurances of their Attachment to His Majestys Interest, and Disposition to act as they shall be directed by me or Mr Cameron, for this Service. They propose to set out on their return in a few Days. I have promised them a further supply of Ammunition from Pensacola.

I have acquainted the Governours of Geor- [A76]
gia the two Carolinas and Virginia with the state of Indian Affairs, & my readyness to assist in seconding their Views or executing any concerted plan for reestablishing the Constitution and His Majestys Authority in their Provinces

I have received accounts of Mr Henry Stuarts arrival in West Florida, and that he was preparing to set out for the Indian Countries to execute the Instructions of which I had the Honour of submitting a Copy to your Lordship in my Letter

N° 31. that he had about 5000 of Gun powder &
10000 ball to distribute to the Creeks & Cherokees

I have already humbly submitted an Opinion that it will be a salutary measure to open & encourage a Trade to the Indian Countries from Pensacola, & that a supply of Ammunition from thence will greatly contribute to keep the Indians in a good Disposition, from [p 77] which Consideration I have prevailed with Mr Andrew Mc. Lean to remove from Augusta where he had lived many years, and to Establish his house at Pensacola I therefore at his request take the Liberty of applying to your Lordship for His Majesty's permission to Messrs Colark & Milligan of London to ship Seven thousand pounds weight of Gun powder & fourteen thousand pounds wt of Indian Trading Ball for Account of said Mr Mc Lean, for Pensacola in West Florida which Liberty I hope your Lordship will be pleased to Pardon

I have the Honour of being with the utmost Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships

Most obedient and

Most humble Servant

John Stuart

The Earl of Dartmouth &c.

[p 78] Endorsed St Augustine 19 Jany 1776 / Mr Stuart / (N° 39) /
Rd 18th May / Entd

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N° 33. / Saint Augustine 6th Janr 1776 (p.79)

My Lord

I had the honour of writing to Your Lordship the 17th ultimate since which I have not been honoured with any Commands by your Lordship.

In my Former I gave your Lordship an Account of my meeting with the Lower Creeks at St. Johns River since which I have been visited by the Inhabitants of three Villages of the same Nation they have returned home extremly well disposed.

I now submit a Copy of a Talk sent me by a very Leading man in the Upper Creek Nation soliciting my interposition to bring about a Peace between them & the Cherokees. I think I shall not be able to avoid complying with his request / without which the Creeks, particularly the (p.80) Upper will not be prevailed upon to Act in reducing the Rebells

The Commissioners appointed by the Continental Congress to manage Indian Affairs in the Southern District have returned from Salisbury in North Carolina where they met and consulted with the Commissioners appointed for the Northern District the result of which is to Call a Meeting of the Cherokees at Fort Charlotte the 16th April, and of the Creeks at Augusta in Georgia

the 1st may. I hope my Influence will prove superior to theirs, and I shall employ it all in counteracting them.] I submit Abstracts of Six James Wright's Letters containing the Above Intelligence.

I have the honour of being with the greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most obedient and

Most humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Honble

The Earl of Dartmouth &c.a

[p.82] Endorsed . N.o 33 / St. Augustine 6th Janry 1766 / Mr. Stuart / (N.o 33) / Rd 3d June. / (4 Inclosures.) / Entd

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[to John Stuart]

Savanah in Georgia 4th Decemr 1775 [p.83]

Sir

I wrote to you & the Governour on the 16th, 23d Ult: which I sent express to acquaint him of the Situation of Lord William Campbell for whom I was really in much pain, It is now reported that 2 Ships of War were off Charlestown Barr last Wednesday, but We have had so many Reports of that sort that I dont know how to credite it, and yet they ought to have been there two months ago from the letters I have received.

We are in a Strange state just now the Provincial Congress Sitting, and a Resolution taken to stop the Courts of Law Galphin &c. are Returned; and I am Informed a Talk has or is to be sent to Invite the Cherokees to a Congress to be held at Fort Charlotte on the 16th of April & the Creeks to one at Augusta on the first of May. and that large Presents are to be made them and every thing done to promote peace &c. &c. Is it Possible that / these things can be suffered! and the [p.84] Kings Officers left in this terrible Situation

Endorsed Extract of a Letter from / Sir James Wright dated / 4th Decemr 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (N° 33) of / 6th Janry 1776. [p.85]

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[To John Stuart]

Savanah the 16th of November 1775 [p.87]

Sir

On the 11th Inst. I received yours of the 29th of October with the Talks inclosed, but I had receiv.ed the Originals before. also Letters from Mr Taitt & Mr Galphin, much to the purpose of what you write -

The Handsome fellow came here last Week under pretence of being sent by Two or Three Towns and the Relations of the Mad Turkey, to try to get Hoonahta Pardoned in the Room of the former. When I told him that that matter had been settled and agreed up.on, in a public Manner with the Indians who came here last October Twelve Month authoris.ed by the Whole Nation and that he was present, and that I could do nothing in it on the application of any Private Person, or a few Towns, but I would give him a Letter to Mr Taitt, and if the whole nation desired it, then on Sopia being first put to Death, the other should be pardoned, and we thought it would be as / Well, or better, to settle and get over that [p.88] matter in this Way, he brought me a Letter from Rae to Elbert or the Council of safety and they have made much of him - A Talk and some presents

[1790] Endorsed Extract of a Letter from / Sir James Wright / dated 16th Novr 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (No 33) of / 6th Jany 1776.

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Little Tallassee 20th. Octr. 1775 [p. 91]

Sir

There was a report here of the Spaniards having taken Augustine and seemed to bear so much truth with it, that I sent an express to Governor Chester, which a little alarmed the People at Pensacola. Mr Stuart was there when the Express Arrived and sent me a Copy of a minute of Council agreed upon after the Express got down desiring me, as soon as I got certain Intelligence of the Spaniards having attacked St Augustine, to march to Pensacola with as many Indians as I could collect, as the Indians at first believed the report to be true. Emistisiguo offered his assistance and waited the return of the Express before he went out a hunting — I have sent Governor Chester notice of the report being only raised by some Indians in the nation, so that his Excellency may not remain in suspence —

The inclosed Talk from the second Man is not a very agreeable Subject at present, [p. 92] but they are heartily tired of the War as the burden lays upon the frontier Towns in the upper Creeks; — Lately the Flats came into the Precantallyhassie, and killed a Woman while the

men where Dancing in the Square, and a few days ago a party came within three Miles of the Savannah Town and painted themselves in Order to proceed but on hearing the drum beat for black Drink they returned leaving their war Tokens behind, being afraid that they were discovered, I am humbly of Opinion that you will be Obliged to do something in this affair to keep up your Interest with your friends here, as it is them that are the sufferers while the other Villains can hunt at pleasure, and if it was a peace it cannot hold long and may in case of any Emergency be in your Power to set them at variance again ~ As I have no presents here shall be glad to know how I am [193] to be supplyed as / your poor Children will be very Troublesome in the Cold weather..

I have the Honour to be with the greatest Respect

Sir

Your most humble Servt

David Taitt

(A Copy)

[190] Endorsed Abstracts from / Mr. David Taitts Letter / of the 20th Octr 1775 / In Mr. Stuarts (N°33) of / 6th Janry 1776

To the Honourable John Stuart Esqr [1951]
Sole Agent and Superintendant of In-
dian affairs &ca &ca

Friend & Brother

Although I am at present alone And none of the Headmen with me, yet I send you a Short Talk and hope you will give me an agree-able Answer to it, I send it in private and desire your Answer may come in private, —

I know that you are appointed by the Great King to take care of the Red people and I therefore send you this Talk; — You know that we have been at War a long time and have lost a great many of Our leading Men that we esteemed, and that assisted in keeping Peace between the White people and us, and I hope we have yet Good Men remaining that will use their endeavour to keep peace, We in this part of the Nation are made very poor by so long a War not being able to hunt, to feed, and cloath our Women and children as we used to do, and as / the rest of our Nation can now do. I therefore [1952] hope that you will take pity on your friends and endeavour to get a Peace made for us, And as soon as I see your Answer I will

Speak to Our Headmen about it, I mentioned this matter to you before and while a man_alive he will repeat what he has before said

I know that you have been in a good Deal of Trouble, and am very sorry for it, and hope that matters will soon be settled among your People again, so that you may be able to do something for us

Niaha, Thlaco
Little Tallassie
Octr. 20th. 1775

Endorsed A Talk from the / Second Man of the / Little Tallassie / 20th Octr 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (No 33) of 6th Jany 1776.

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1897

The Seven following Papers received without any Letter inclosing them.

Saint Augustine 24th October 1775 [p.101]

Sir,

I had the Honour of writing your Ex.cellency the 3d instant, since which the Express sent by me to the Creek Nation has returned.

The Agents sent by the different Committees had got to the Creek Nation before my Express, they distributed about 2,000# of Gun Powder & a proportionable quantity of Ball as a present to said Indians and delivered the messages which they were charged with I have however the Satisfaction to find that my Talks were better received, and that Mr Taitt mantains his influence. I now send Copies of his Letter, that from Samuel Thomas Interpreter, and the Talks from the Upper and Lower Creeks — I am preparing to meet the Chiefs of the Lower Creeks at Picolata in this Province the 20th of next month I expect about 400 will attend I shall use my utmost Endeavors to attach them firmly to His Majestys Interest

The influence of the Traders is made use of in Opposition to mine by the dissaffected party. Mr George Galphin who had Traded in the Coweta Town upwards of 30 years, and has by that means acquired a considerable Fortune, conducts this Opposition by his two Nephews, he has acquired some

influence in that part of the Nation which has been greatly Strengthned by his having been for several Years past constantly Employed by Sir
[p 102] James Wright as his/privalē Agent to carry what points he had in View, particularly the laté Negotiation for a Cession of Land in his Province Sir James Was not Aware of the Mischeif he was doing by giving such Consequence to Traders, and to this the difficulty of Managing the Creek Indians has Chiefly been owing Indeed the Provinces ought not to have any thing to do with Indians, their Affairs should be conducted by Officers immediatly under the Direction of the Crown & the Commander in Chief of His Majestys Forces: this has been sufficiently experienced ever since the Management of the Indian Trade has reverted to the different Provinces.

The Excessive Rains in this Province have prevented my Brothers setting out, and as the Roads still continue extremly bad he setts out tomorrow by sea for Pensacola to Execute the Instructions of which I submit a Copy

I find it will be necessary for me to go to Pensacola after finishing with the Lower Creeks, this place is too remote from the great Nations: at Pensacola I shall be much more Contiguous to them, and can with equal facility receive your Excellencys

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Commands. I have Contracted with Mr Penman Merchant here for such a supply of presents Arms Ammunition & Provisions as will be absolutly necessary to be delivered at Pensacola the begining of March next upon my Advancing him the Summs drawn for upon your Excellency and I am obliged further to draw upon You in his favour for £ 2625 York Currency for defraying the Expences of the approaching meeting at Picolata, of which I begg your Excellency will be pleased to order payment. I inclose a List of the Articles for which I have contracted with Mr / Penman, (p. 103) and I have given Mr Henry Stuart a Credit on Merchants at Pensacola for such Necessaries as he may stand in need of to carry into the Nations.

I hope these Measures will be attended with Success, and that they may meet with your Excellency's Approbation. I am with the utmost Respect

Sir

Your Excellency's
most obedient and most
humble Servant
John Stuart

To His Excellency the Honble
Thomas Gage Esqr. General & Commander in
Cheif &c. of all His Majesty Forces in N: America

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[to John Stuart]

[n.105]

Chehaws October the 2nd. 1775

Sir

Observing my directions endeavoured to dispatch your express as soon as Possible, only the Indians all being in a confusion in the whole nation at this time and one bad thing happened for the worse Mr Barr trader in the Coussitaws came from Augusta & did not tell the whole when I had all the cheifs of the lower Creeks assembled togather at the Coussitaw Town he was taken by some of the Liberty men & he got away from them and went round by Augusta this affair has Stoped me four days geting any thing done with great deal to doe I have Pessified them and am affraid your express will be stoped on his way as I am informed he will, I have given this Letter in the Coare of the Indian that comes with him as the Indian may keep it safe when he wold be searched and thinking it the best way to send these safe to hand and now if the Indians as was with Barr hapened to die on his Journey to Augusta they will kill some Poor man for him and say it hapened all by his being stoped on the way I cannot send the number of Indians as will come down, as they are not certain as yet what

number come from each town and the way as
wants it to be as for the whole Amonition as
[p 106] intend for the lower Creeks they desire it / to be
given into each Towns men down at the same
Place they meet your Honour, and that will satis-
fie the young men as will be present at that
time as the Merchants has not given some Towns
any and it has caused much Grumbling amongst
the young men as have got no Powder to hunt with
this season and when they gets it given to them
there they will be best Satisfied I have had much
trouble the Indians all being dissatisfied at this
time and Barr has told he had some Letters
for David Tait Esqr from your Honor as was stoped
on the way, the like of what will cause more
disturbance in this Nation as I cant wright any
better I doubt your Honor will have some trouble
to make it out as I cannot write good and Spell
very bad and wont get any different man as we
dont know our friends from our foes this with
my best respects to you and all your good family

I am Sir your / Most Hble Servt

signed) Samuel Thomas

Kings Interpreter / Lower Creeks

[p 107] Endorsed Copy of a Letter / from Samuel Thomas /
Interpreter in the Lower / Creek Nation

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A Talk to the Hon^ble John Stuart Esquire (p.109)
Sole Agent and Superintendant of Indian
affairs for the Southern district in Answer
to his of to the upper Creeks 16^th August 1775

Friend and Brother

The red people are the Masters of this Land and I am now thinking of the great King over the great water, who is my Father friend and Brother and am now going to talk to him. When the white people came first upon this Land we saw one another and made a Long and Lasting friendship which has continued ever since. We allways Look to the Alibama King for all Talks and listens to what he Says. He was Appointed to take care of the red people that neither man woman nor child should come to Poverty and we will allways give good ear to what he Says. We know very well that he was Appointed to care of the affairs of the red people and white people that come amongst us. We was desired to listen to what the Alibama King and his Officers said we have not foregot it, nor do we Know of any / other to give ear to. we find (p.110) that he was Obliged to leave his house, but we hope that no person will Trouble him nor his

Negroes or Cattle &c: for when a house is left empty it is apt to go to ruin, and we Look on him as one of ourselves and what is done to him as done to us. The Governor of Charlestown desired us to Keep the two paths Clear and not to let them grow up we are still of the same Opinion and Look upon all the white people as one people, our former headmens Talks were to Keep the path Clear from Charlestown to the Tuckabatchies and Abicas, even to the Chicasaw nation, and we were then friendly together — The great King Ordered the ships allways to come over with a Supply for us, and we do not Know the reason why they should now be hindered. The Alibama King gave me this Commission (holding one in his hand) and told me to hold fast the English and to transact bussiness Among the red people, and while I held this he said that I should not be poor, and I do not Know any reason for the Shiping now being Stopt, The Governor and Council in Savannah desired us to Keep the path white and it is our [p. 111] Intention that it should remain white -

We find that the Alibama King is at Saint Augustine and although it is a great way off we have heard his Talks and find them all

very good and we are very glad to hear from him_

I am now going to talk to the Governor of Saint Augustine.

We have all met and have heard Talks and I am now going to Talk to the Governor of Saint Augustine

We had a meeting at Savannah sometime ago but now we are not altogather, we heard many talks from your place, but they came to nothing, and we tore the papers at Savannah. We know very well that no white man but a Governor or the Alibama King can make a Talk or give to or receive any thing of a red man, and, no Red can make a Talk himself or give any thing away. I hope that the Governor of Saint Augustine and the Alibama King will use their endeavour to reconcil matters between the white people, that they may not remain in confusion

To the Superintendant

I am very glad to hear your good talk /but we cannot get Horses to send for the Powder[illegible] and bullets, We did not expect that you was at St. Augustine but expected you to be at Pensacola where we made you a King and where you promised to take Coare of the red people, at our first meeting at Pensacola the upper & Lower

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Creeks were there and we had a Talk with you there, and we thought that if there was any Talks that we should meet in Pensacola, St. Augustine is not so far from Pensacola, but you can come a Ship there and if you will appoint a time to meet we will meet you in Pensacola but cannot at St. Augustine it being so far off. We hear your good Talk and are glad to hear it although not quite glad for you must Consider we are not a small people but many in Number and the Quantity of Ammition will be too little

Given by Emistisigus at
Little Tallassee the 20th Day
Sept: 1775 in the presence of
the headmen of y Towns
David Taitt

Interpreted by
Jacob Mourneac
Present Messrs Rae & Holms

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Cussitaw Square Sept. 29th 1775 [Talk 13]

A talk an Answar to the great Beloved mans John Stewart Esqr. at St. Augustine

We have heard your talk and we like it and see its the same as all the beloved men of Georgia sent us some time Past, you are all one People and our oldest white Brothers your talks is good and we like it very well, we hear there is some difference between the white People and we are all sorry to hear it and they have sent us a Hand full of Powder and Lead, and now we see your good talk and send us word to come down and get some more we are all glad to hear you desire us to keep in friendship with all white men, our friends as we dont want to have warr in the matter but leave you to settle the matter your-selves and will be glad to hear the difference set-tled and all at Peace again, we all see now your talk is good and the talk from the beloved men from Georgia is the same we like them both very well as are not desired to Join any one Party we all desire our old white tradeing Road, shall to be kept white and clear after matters is settled all the cheif head Ruleing men of the whole lower towns are now here and is all as one, we intend

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some head men from all our Towns will come to see you and hold you fast by your hand and then we will have/some more talk with you and when you and the Governors hear this from us you will think we all are your friends, as our horses is very Poor we all have determined, to meet you at pecalatauw the later end of next moon as it will take us sometime to hunt our horses and set of we have allso sent two Indians to come down with our talk as it may bome safe to you we all end our talk and hope to see you in good health, when we all meet at that Place we have mentioned, this Moon we will sett of and hunt some on our way down as the old men can. not travell fast, the different cheifs and Ruleing head men in the lower Creeks

Simpoyaufy ---X--- of Coivitaws
Bleu Sault ∞ King of Cussitaws
Pumkin King ∋ of Osicheas
The King ----X of Chihaws
Long Warrior ∃ of Chihaws

Interpited by Samuel Thomas Kings Interpriter

Endorsed a Talk from the head / Men & cheifs of the Lower / Creeks ____ to J: S:

[Sept. 1775]

A List of Sundry Articles to be delivered at [p.117] Pensacola in February next by Mr James Penman Merchant viz[t]

15,000 lb Gun Powder, } at Pensacola
30,000 lb Ball . . . . . }

5 000 lb Gun Powder } at St Augustine
10 000 lbs Ball . . . . . }

150 pcs Strouds

120 ps Blanketing

3500 Indian Trading Guns

100 Rifles

400 lbs Vermillion

140 dozn Trading Shirts assorted

30 doz pipe Tomohawks

30 doz common do

25 Gross Cuttlean Knives

100 barls salt pork

500 barl Second Flour

Endorsed Goods to be delivered by Mr Penman [p.118] at St Augustine & Pensacola --

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Little Tallassie 20th Sept. 1775

Sr

On the 16th Inst. I received your Letter of the 15 Ult. on the 6th Inst. thirteen horse load of Amunition was brought to the Geahaws being the Dests. for the lower Creeks and the 17th there talk from the Council of Safety at Savannah was interpreted by Stephen Forest in the Mesichie Square and given out by Mr. Holmes although I believe against his inclination in one part of it they say that the present dispute amongst the White People was occasioned by his Majestys demanding more money of the People on this side of the great water than they could offord to pay and which they had told his Majesty they were not able to pay but he would not believe them and had sent his Soldiers to demand it however they say that if the French or Spanyards was to make war against his Majesty they would drop there present dispute and Join as one Man to feight there enemy this & some more such things they say as a reason for Keeping the Amunition that was intended for the Indian trade and Acquainting them of the Quantity of Amunition now sent them as a Present, there was likewise a Letter from Mr. Galphin acquainting the Indians how

for he had been their friend in writeing to the people of Georgia & Carolina in their favour and telling them off his leaving off trade in favour of his Sons & Nephews Vca and Promising the Indians of a Supply of Goods Vca as usual from them but mentioned nothing of his or any other Persons being appointed to the management of Indian affairs – while the Indians where sitting in the Mascheu Square I received a Letter [N 120] and Talk from Sir / James Wright, and had the Talk immediately interpreted to the Indians who would only give one answar to his Excellencys, Mr Golphins and that from the Committee, and that I observed that the Cowetas had received their lesson before they came into the Square, for Escochabee behaved rather a little too rash untill I spoke a little sharpe to him, the Coweta headmen seemed well satisfied with their share of the Present being only one horse Load but the others esteemed it as a mere nothing – after that I returned to the Tuckabatchies, where I met the mad Dog and Emistisigus. I got them to appoint a meeting of the Headmen at this Place on the 17th Inst. but after that the broken days had been sent round the upper Creeks, Mr Rae and Lyal his interpreter went to the Cafuskee Town where they say that the

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Handsome fellow made a second appointment at the Oakchoys which threw the Indians into confusion but I have now cleared up matters to them in such a manner that I believe there will be no more regard paid to any such meet. -ings as theirs, for the Indians are not at all pleased with this present but would rather that the supplys had come as usuall to be sold. I cannot get Horses to send for the Ammunition from this Place & Mr Thomas gets none from the Lower Towns I think that horses may be got in East Florida to send it as it will be absolutely neces. -sary to have it here and likewise some goods to give the Indians at Proper time as no Pains is spared to debauch the minds of the Indians by a sett of bad Villians such as Mr J Bryan. I have sent your talk to be interpreted to the Lower Creeks by Mr Thomas and desired him to send some of the Principal Chiefs to you at St. Augustine and to write you the Indians answar to your / Letter as I find it not very safe [p.12] to go down myself having received good assurance of some design against me, I wish that you could make it Convenient to go to Pensacola as I know the Intentions of the Silenty People to cutt off any Communication between Augustine & this Place, I

hope that after these Committees sees the big Mans Speech in your favour they will act a little more favourable to you in respect to your Property but do not trust your self either among them or without a guard in St. Augustine and beware of every man that comes from here or any of the back Settlements in Georgia &ca the Indians are friendly & attached to his Majesty and I believe that they will remain very Quiet unless these People drive them into Confusion with their Talks. I wish you health and happiness and am with the greatest respect

Sr

Your Most Obt. Hble Servt

Signed David Taitt

P.S would you forgive
Hovvmachta on account
of the mad Turkey DT

[p. 127] Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Mr Taitt Agent
in the / Creek Nation ---

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Duplicate/ Saint Augustine 24th October 1775 (No 12)

Sir

As you have undertaken to proceed from hence to Pensacola and to transact Bussiness of the greatest importance to his Majesty's Service, and which I could not trust to any but a Person in whose good Conduct and Fidelity I have the utmost confidence. I am to desire that upon your arrival in West Florida you will wait of Governor Chester and deliver into his hands my Letter. That you send immediatly to Mr Charles Stuart and Communicate to him the purport of General Gages orders to me and let him know my Ideas relative to the Necessity of making a Peace between the Creeks and Chactaws concerning which I wait for General Gage's Orders having submitted that Matter to his Excellency, in the mean time no Steps are to be taken to Widen or Keep open the Breach —

I desire that he may write fully to Mr John Mc Intosh and dispose the Chactaws to act when required either in Conjunction with any other Tribe or Seperatly, that persons of Ability and Known Attachment to his Majestys Interest of said Nation be employed to form Parties in the different Tribes to Join as I shall direct in Support of his Majestys Government and in distressing his Enemies

Afterwards you'll proceed to the upper Creek Nation and in like manner Communicate the Generals Ideas to Mr. Taitt and with him take such Steps as may appear to be best cal-culated to distress the Enemies of Government

Youll apply in Private to Emistisiguo and the second man of the Little Tallassees and endeavor by every practicable means to engage them
[P. 124] to act in his Majestys Service, and I will see whatever promises you shall think proper to make fullfilled In publick let your Talks be in general tending to confirm the Confidence of the Indians in his Majesty & his Servants, to convince them that their want of Trade and Ammunition is intirely owing to the bad designes of the Rebells that by Espousing their Party the Indians must continue poor and deprived of the Means of Subsistance; whereas by Attaching themselves to the Kings Interest they will find plenty of all necessaries pouring in upon them from Pensacola and Mobille as well as from St Augustine. In Private youll represent to Emistisiguo the he will draw to himself the greatest honour by Exerting himself in the Kings Cause, and endeavouring to bring his Rebellious white Subjects to reason and a Sense of their Duty, and he may be assured of every

Mark of Distinction and profit that I can confer upon him

You will get proper persons employed to Counteract the Machinations of the Committee Agents in the Lower Creeks and endeavour to Engage such head men as Mr Taitt can confide in to undertake that Bussiness — After you shall have finished in the upper Creeks you will proceed to the Overhill Cherokee Nation and first endeavour to secure a good Interpreter and convene such of the Traders as are attached to Government whose assistance you will endeavour to secure — If Mr Cameron should be in the Overhill Towns upon your arrival there you will of course consult and act Jointly with him and give him the necessary information of the Generals Ideas and Orders to me — You will with him appoint a meeting of the Chiefs and by the Same Arguments as above mentioned engage them to Act in his Majesty / Service — If Mr Cameron should [illegible] not be in that part of the Nation you will immediatly send for him, and with him proceed through the Nation, All Agent and Emmissaries from the Rebells must if possible be driven out of the Nation and no terms kept with them —

To give you the greater weight and Influence I have procured you a quantity of Ammunition

and Governor Chester will assist you with as much as he can to be distributed to the upper Creeks and Cherokees, and I give you a Letter to Mr Millar and Swanson of Pensacola who will furnish you with whatever you shall have Occasion for. I leave the rest to your good Sense and Discretion recommending to you to keep me regularly informed

You will understand that an indiscriminate Attack upon the Provinces is not Meant, but to act in the Execution of any concerted Plan and to assist his Majesty's Troops and Friends in distressing the Rebells and bringing them to a sense of their Duty I am with truth

Sir

Your most obedt humble
Servant
John Stuart

To Mr Henry Stuart.

[p. 126] Endorsed Duplicate of Instructions / to Mr Henry Stuart

N 34 Saint Augustine 8th Janr 1776 [p.131]

My Lord

Since my Letter N° 33 dated 6th Current I have received Despatches from Mr Cameron in the Cherokee Nation, with Intelligence that 62 Cherokees are within a Days Journey of this Place on their way to see me

By the inclosed extracts and copies of different Letters, I hope it will appear that Mr Cameron has Exerted a great deal of Influence and Address with much Spirit and Judgement. The Offers which he rejected as well as the threats thrown out against him, have proven equally ineffectual for preventing his doing his Duty and faithfully discharging the trust reposed in him. [The Cherokees under the trying circumstances of Hunger and Nakedness stand firm in their Attachment to His Majesty, and reject all the temptations thrown in their View. The Talk given to the Party [p.132] sent here, as well as their undertaking so long a Journey at this Season shows their Fidelity to His Majesty and Confidence in me, Nothing in my power shall be wanting to reward and encourage their Disposition

The Commissioners for Indian Affairs Appointed by the Continental Congress have it in

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charge to seize the persons of the Superintendants and their Deputies: the Complement I shall return if in my Power.

I find it will be absolutly Necessary to Employ proper Persons to Assist the Agents in the different Nations in Supporting the Kings Interest, and Carrying his orders into Execution; for every practicable Measure will be pursued by the Rebels to debauch the Minds and Alienate the Affections of the Indians.] I have the honor of being with the greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordships most Obedient &
Most humble Servant
John Stuart

The Right Hon^ble
The Earl of Dartmouth &c.

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[p. 133]

St Augustine 11 January 1776

My Lord

Since the foregoing was written all the Cherokees are arrived. Mr Hamilton who conducted them here informs me that Mr Cunninghams Party had encreased to about 2500 men, that after he, Hamilton, had marched 12 miles out of the Cherokee Towns, he met a person going Express to Mr Cameron with Letters from Mr Cunningham, from whom he learnt that Richard Pearis was taken prisoner & in safe custody of said Party, and they had forty more Prisoners of some Note

I am with the greatest Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's most humble and most obedt Servant

John Stuart

[p. 134]

Endorsed (to inclosure pp. 131-133) N° 34 St. Augustine 8th Jany. 1776. / Mr. Stuart. / (N°. 34) / Ry 3d. June / (9 Inclosures) / Encl.d

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[p.135]

Abstracts from a letter from John Lewis Gervais Mercht in Chas Town to Alexr Cameron 27th June 1775

I sincerly wish with you matters were settled amicably that good natured folks might enjoy peace & Tranquility But that is not probable when we are threatned with Insurrections from our slaves & invasions from our neighbours who are to be brought upon us by those whom we hitherto cherished in our bosoms — Horrid — Cruel Schemes! My friend Cameron I'm sure will Shudder at the thought to becume the butcher of his Friends of his neighbours & their Innocent Children who never offended, no who vied with each other who should oblige him most — Is it possible that he could go out of the settlement to head Cherokees against them I say no, his heart is too good it is too generous it would bleed at the thoughts of so Cruel so inhuman an undertaking Nevertheless my dear Cameron Captn Stuarts letter to you in January last is very suspicious your answer to him which for his vindication without regard to you he showed to five Gentlemen in Georgia has Amazed Us —

(and in another place)

My dear ffriend suffere me to entreat you not

to sullly your hands Your heart & your honour under pretended duty. If your duty requires dis-
[p 136] honorable / acts of you Resign and live admired, be-loved, and I make no doubt I may say rewarded among your ffriends &ca

If interest was the rule of your actions, which I think it is not that also would be a motive for your resignation for if the Indians break out I should tremble for Lochaber & the Cameronian ffamily no doubt an enraged people would ex-terminate them and all their property & posses-sions as the Instruments of all their misseries & distresses

By Captn Stuarts exposing your letters he might have endangered your life, if you was not beloved as you are in this settlement I think it was unpardonable

[p 138] Endorsed Abstracts from / John L: Gervais Letter / to Alexr Cameron / 27th June 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (N° 34) / of 8th Janry 1776. / (1)

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Keeowee 21st July 1775 (Orig)

Dear Sir

It gives me the greatest Pleasure to be able to vindicate myself to you from the asper:sions which some malicious people have circulated, that I had shown or by other means divulged your letters to me which has been represented to be the cause of the generall resentment of the peo:ple of Carolina & Georgia against you and that oaths to this effect were made before the Com:mittees of Carolina & Georgia

But you may depend upon it that it is all false that there was no mention made of any such thing before the Congress. Andrew Williamson is one of the Congress he has been here since his return from Town and he was present when the dispute arose and when Captn Elbert or Elbington & Joiner were sent after you to Georgia It was first mentioned that you was an enemy to the Country that great power was lodged in you and ought to be watched, and that your leaving the Province at that Juncture showed your guilt: and therefore ought to be brought back — That they did not doubt but you had given me orders to bring down the Indians upon them in case they should offer

to oppose the landing of any of His Majesties Troops — That your papers ought to be searched
[p. 140] and particularly a white / calf Skin book where Copies of most of your letters were keeped

Mr Williamson declared to me that he never heard my name mentioned in Congress or any where else untill the Extracts of your letters returned from Georgia which sett the whole body of the People in a flame against you and me also, and as soon as they were Informed that I came to the nation, the Settlement was Struck with Panick that I sett out on Purpose to march down the Indians upon them.

If any information was made of the letter which Caused so much uneasiness in the People it must have been done by some person about you or Mr Ogilvie who saw it in your book as to the best of my remembrance no person ever saw it with me except Mr Allan Cameron and I think it was as Safe with him as if it had been in the Centre of Gravity: I did not know at first but I might have shown it to Mr Rugely; but I think that I am since Convinced to the Contrary, Tho' in my opinion there was nothing in that letter that would prevent me from exposing it or giving the perusall of it to

any person if the like practice was customary with me

On the 9th Instant I receeived Intelligence of some Traders who passed by Senecca that you gott safe on board a Kings Cutter in Savanah this intelligence I communicated to the Indians of that Town for which good news they / drew up at [Pr. 10s] the Town house hoisted their colours, fired three Rounds of Blunt Shott, after which they danced & spent the afternoon with the greatest Chearfulness and Rejoycing. On this occassion I gott some rum for them to add still if possible to the elevation of their mind at this juncture

On the 15th Batt Hamilton returned from my house where she had been for some days with her sister and at the same time a white man arrived from Saludy, both who affirmed that Major Mayson with 3 or 400 Men were actually on their march hither to kill me or take me Prisoner into the Settlements. The Good Warior to whom the news was first brought was hoing in his field He threw away his hoe Ran for his arms and selt up the War hoop in 5 Minutes he had every Man in Senecca fitt to bear arms about him he told them what he had heared and did not doubt but his Brother Scotchie was either

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killed or taken by that time and asked what they should do in that case Tuckassie replyed that he should die or have Revenge and all spoke in the same terms. They sett out from Senecca painted in all colours and in less than 2 hours they were all here on their way hither they sent Runners to the other Towns to Inform them to meet at Keowee so that all the Indians in the lower Towns were there that afternoon who declared to a man that if I had been Killed or Carried off, they would follow to the Settlements
[P. 102] and fall upon every thing that / fell in their way. They observed that their Father was obliged to leave his house in Charles Town and every thing behind him and untill they could find him again they would look upon me as their ffather. That if the white People had gott us both killed they would cutt them off next Year The overhill Chiefs have given no satisfaction respecting the 2 Virginians lately killed and indeed this is no time to require it.

Common report here says, that I am to be killed here or taken Prisoner out off the Nation and tormented with lighted torches Viz^a But while the Canalies Stand Staunch all the threats of my neighbours give me very little uneasiness as I am

in hopes of having the Pleasure if Possible to hear soon from you, and that the Almighty may protect & keep you in health & Spirits is the Sincere Prayer of

Sir

Your most humble

Most obedt & Obliged Servant

Signed Alexr Cameron

The Honble John Stuart Esqr

Endorsed Copy Letter / Alexr Cameron / 21st July 75 /

In Mr Stuarts (N° 34) / of 8th Janry 1776. / (2)

South Carolina (p. 103)

The Honourable Wm Henry Drayton Esqr. one of the
Beloved Men of South Carolina
To the Kings, Warriors, & beloved Men of
the Cherokee Nation

Friends & Brothers

I am come up into the back parts of this
Country to explain to the People the Causes of the
Quarrell between Our Great King on the other side
of the Great Watter and the white People that is
ourselves on this side the Water — I go about with
but one Tongue the People come when I call them
they hear me they believe me, and all except a
few bad men are satisfied with what I say. I
am told that Mr Cameron has two Tongues and
that he has given you bad Talks about this Quar-
rell altho he tells us he has done no such thing
I am also told that because we are getting our Warriors
together that you imagine we are going to make War
upon you I desire therefore to talk to you about
these matters in order that you may understand
the cause of our Quarrell with the / Great King (p. 104)
and why we have killed his Warriors at Boston and
also that you may understand that Mr. Cameron
has not given you a Right Talk about us, and also
that you may believe that our Warriors do not Intend

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to make War upon your Nation if you are inclined to leave in peace with us – Believe me Friends & Brothers that we desire to keep bright the Chain of Friendship which we have now held at one end and you at the Other for so many years past.

I send this talk to you by your & my Friend, Mr. Pearis, and I desire that Six of you may come with Captn. Pearis who will show you the way to me, to hear a good Talk which I wish to have an opportunity of making to you about the affairs I have mentioned, and I make no doubt but what I shall say will give you great satisfaction for I am Your Friend & Brother

Signed Wm Hy Drayton

August 21st 1775

[P.106] Endorsed Copy Talk {Augt. 21st 1775} / William Henry Drayton / To the Cherokees / delivered by Richd. Pearis / In Mr. Stuarts (N. 34) / of 8th. January 1776. / (3)

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[p.1147]

Sir

In Consequence of the Powers vested in me by the Councell of Safety for this Province I take the Liberty of addressing this Letter to you and I do most earnestly request that you will Consider it with attention

In this time of Publick Calamity, when the Kings Troops have unnaturally Commenced, & Continue to prosecute a cruel war upon the People of America, In this time when we have just cause shortly to expect the arrivall of the Kings Troops in this Colony in order to spread among us Slaughter & devastation. We feel ourselves Strongly actuated by the prevailing Principle in human nature, and we cannot but endeavour to remove at a distance from us every object that has any ability or is in any degree adapted either to Counteract or to impede our mean of defence Or to assist the Enemy.

It gives me great Concern Sir to be under a necessity of telling you that from your Connection with the Kings Government, and our knowledge of Your incapability of betraying your trust we look upon you as an object that we ought to endeavour / to remove to a distance from your present [p.1148] Residence.

We do most ardently wish to procure your

removal by the mildest measures & politest mode of application I do therefore Sir in the name of the Colony request that you will forthwith re-move to such a distance from the Cherokee Nation as will Satisfy us that you cannot readily exercise the functions of your office among them, and thereby remove our apprehensions that the functions of your office may be exercised to our prejudice - We shall be satisfied to find that you fix your residence at St. Augustine or at Pensacola Your Principall the Superintendant & his Excellency the Gover-nor have removed in this time of Confusion, the one from his usuall place of Residence, the other from among the People the King sent him to Preside over, neither of them at the Request of the Colony but it appears they did not think it Proper to expose themselves to the just Resentment of the Publick You have the Conduct of these officers of the Crown as an example for your Conduct, a Conduct which will be much more justifiable in you who are now Publickly requested by the Colony to de-part from the Cherokee Nation, a Request too, [p 119] that you must / know carries all the force of a Command that you cannot disobey with

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safety to your person & the People in your charge if you should think Proper to cause the Indians to attempt to enable you to remain in the Nation

I am.

Sir

Your Most humble Sert

(Signed) Wm Hy Drayton

South Carolina

Longarees Sept 26th 1775

To Alexr Cameron Esqr

Deputy Superintendant in the Cherokee Nation

Endorsed Copy Letter / Willm Henry Drayton / To [N.150] Alexr Cameron / 26th Septr 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (No 34) / of 8th Janry 1776. / (4)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Keeowee 16th October 1775 [p.151]

Sir

By Mr Wilkinson I Received your letter of the 26th Ultimate which I have matured.ly Considered

The Contest and Confusion in America at Present gives me real concern, but who the Aggressors are I am not a Competent Judge to determine, nor will I pretend to blame men who have already advanced so far as the Americans have done in support of a cause which there conscience dictates to them is just, to avail them.selves of every mean in their power either in their defence or to terminate the present unhappy & un.naturall conflict with their parent state

Be pleased Sir to accept of my sincerest acknowledgement for the concern you express for requesting of me to remove to some distance from my present residence among the Cherokees, this concern Sir, makes the demand still more heavy upon me, as I cannot find myself at liberty to comply with it, at the same time I think that the Chiefs of your Province can be under no apprehension of danger from me or my Connection with the Indians if we are at liberty to enjoy peace & Tranquility where we are.

The Great men whom you are pleased
to mention to me Sir, for the rule of my con-
(p 152) duct / were very differently Situated, they were
Stationed among the most Strenuous part of the
People in the present Quarrell, where they could
not officiate any part of their duty without Ben-
-ware and run perhaps the risque of their lives
to no purpose.

I am particularly sorry that my being
in this nation gives you any uneasiness, but
while I have the honor to serve in my pre-
-sent office I must implicitly observe the direc-
-tions & orders of my Superiors and cannot recede
from my Post without their leave.

From the day I commenced Mr
Stuart's Deputy I received no Instructions Inju-
-rious to the Frontier Inhabitants but on the
contrary & agreeably to my orders I have assi-
-duously endeavoured to Cultivate peace & Friend-
-ship between the Indians and them; and at
this very Juncture when I am threatned with
bondign Punishment from all Quarters of your
Province I am endeavouring a medeation

In your Talk to the Indians by Mr
Baris of 21st August you mentioned that you are
Informed I talked to them with two Tongues

I think Sir you might as well have ommitted
such uncourtly expressions as it could answer
no purpose for I defy / you or any man breath- [p.153]
-ing to make good these assertions and if it was
with a view to prejudice the Indians against
me, all the Rhetoric Mr Barns is Master of
could not affect it altho' he is well known to be
a Person who will not stick to truth or any
thing to accomplish his designs I am

Sir

Yours &,ca

(Signed) Alexr Cameron

To William Henry Drayton Esqr.

Endorsed Copy Letter / Alexr Cameron To / William [p.154]
Henry / Drayton / 16th Octr 1775 / In Mr Stuarts
(No. 341) / of 8th Janry 1776. / (5)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

[p.153]

Charlestown 29th October 1775.

Sir

We have just received and taken under our consideration your letter of the twentyeth instant, and we thank you for the intelligence contained in it

Mr Pearis had some days before intimated to us what passed between Mr Cameron & the Cherokees We shall only observe to you, that when Mr Cameron in his talk to the Indians "that but for the care of the Great King &c they could not have had a foot of land left them by the white." Your silence was a Tacit confirmation of a Short charge against us comprehending every thing that could or can be said to render us odious in the sight of the Indians

"We do not expect to find you at Keowee with this and therefore will not enlarge, but if it shall so happen that you have been detained, We desire you will use your utmost endeavours to the latest hour of your being there & all future opportunities to erradicate the belief of such pernicious doctrines as Mr Cameron has impressed upon the hearts of those People — He may pretend what Friendship he pleases for us but as he could not / have said more to undo us if his [p.154]

Speech had been continued from the rising to the Setting of the Sun than is contained in the few words above recited, so if he should write volumns, and make 20 affidavits in prooff of his pretend-ed neutrality we should not believe him - he has affoarded us too much reason to say we are sure that whenever it shall be thought proper by his Emplogers to order the Cherokees to fall upon and murder our Frontier Inhabitants Man Woman & Children he will be found a ready & active Instrument for promoting & carrying into execution the Charitable Measure. We Refer you to a Particular Instruction by the Continen-tall Congress, towards Such Men Which we take this occasion to recommend to the Consideration of the Board of Commissioners at Salisbury; By Order of the Council of Safety

Signed Hn: Lawrence President

Edward Wilkinson Esqr

(Inside) Endorsed Copy Letter / Henry Lawrence to / Edward Wilkinson / 29th October 1775 / In Mr Stuarts (N°34) / of 8th Janry 1776. / (6)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Intelligence contained in Mr Camerons Letter of 8th Novr

William Henry Drayton accompanied by two Independant Parsons, Hart & Tenant, made a Tour thro' the interrior & back parts of Caro. lina & Georgia Harranguieing the people and exciting them to Rebellion by enumerating a long list of pretended grievances and represent. ing the acts of Parliament, respecting Boston, as Cruel Tyranical & oppressive, by which means they seduced a great many people. Mr Drayton authorized Richard Pearis to give & receive Talks from the Indians, to use his Influence to gett Mr Cameron killed or taken Prisoner, in which he failed of success altho' he tryed every mean in his Power to effect it first by endeavouring to raise a sufficient body of men, and when he could not gett a Sufficient number, he then offered a Considerable reward to any single person who would Shott him from be. hind a bush then mount his horse & escape into the Settlements — Pearis was at the same time writing Mr Cameron privatly to be up. on his guard against the designs of some of the Frontier inhabitants upon his life

Mr Drayton sent Pearis with a Talk

into the Nation (of which I send a Copy here-
[A 160 Imp Orig] with) who delivered it to the Indians & prevailed
upon Ecuny or the Good Warrior & three more In-
dians to go with him to visit Mr Drayton at the
Congarees these Cherokees were told by Mr Drayton
that Mr Cameron was a very bad man and spoke
with two Tongues that the white people were deter-
mined to drive him off the Cherokee Nation and
that if the Cherokees attempted to protect him they
would involve themselves in a War by which the
lives of their Women & Children would be exposed
and that for a person who could not now be of
the least Service to them whatever he might tell
them to the Contrary -- Ecuny seemed to approve
of what Mr Drayton said and promised not to Pro-
tect Mr Cameron but upon his return home being
severely reprimanded by the head men for listning
to Mr Drayton or Pearis's talks denied that he had
made any such Promise]

Richard Pearis was to have delivered Mr
Draytons Talk to the Indians on the 9th of October,
and the Indians mett accordingly at Sugar Town
to hear it but as Pearis had been taken Sick they
were disapointed but on the 10th his Son George
Pearis with one Dutarque an officer and a Party
of Rangers Mett the Indians Mr Cameron took

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bare to be present where Mr Edward Wilkinson was also - Emmy first addressed the Indians said he had been told by / Mr Drayton that the Great King was going to make the white people pay much more for their goods than usual and that of course the Indians would be obliged to pay two Pounds of leather for what formerly they could buy for one pound Vca but as Pearis was Sick and could not attend he desired them to go over to his house where they would hear Mr Draytons Talk explained Mr Cameron then re-minded them of Mr Paris's behaviour upon many occasions when by lies & Forgeries he had imposed upon them and defrauded them of their land in doing which He Pearis had not been Singu-lar as the same had been practised by many of the Frontier Inhabitants and had it not been for the line run & Marked by order of the King they would not have had a Foot of land left them at this day and then they would have been obliged to Serve as Slaves. That they seemed to have forgott how much Trouble & expence it had cost their Father the Superintendant to re-cover a part of their land of which they had been defrauded by the same Pearis that lying Rogue who now wanted to talk to them, that they

could not Suppose he would tell them truth as he never knew it — That the People by the water side wanted them to take up the hatchett against their Great Father the King who had supported them time / out off mind and would always do so while they behaved properly and listned to his talks — Upon which a Chief named Keanutah made a manly Speech desired that they would pay no attention to Pearis who was a Rogue & a devil and could never speak truth, thus he desired his Son George Pearis to tell him, that Scotchie (Mr Cameron) had been appointed by their Father the Superintendant to take Care of them, that he never had deceived them that they would hold him fast & protect him notwithstanding the anger of the white people .. He was seconded by another Chief upon which all the Indians went away and left Ecuay young Pearis with the Officer and his detachment by themselves in the Town house some Indians went a few days afterwards to Pearis's house in hopes of getting some ammunition which had been promised them but they returned without any and much disscapointed

[P.162 N.12 P. of orig.]

On the 12th Septemr 4 Seneeka Indians were fired upon about break of day near the Buffaloe (Creek) on the new Ceded lands in Georgia one of them was killed & two wounded the 4th who was not hurt,

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named the Raven sett up the war hoop and the wounded men stood to their arms upon which the white people Ran off, this Murther was perpetrated by three Brothers named Bloud, for which they have since been committed to Prison in Georgia ~ The Indians were much exasperated at this piece of Treachery and were with difficulty Restrained by their Chiefs from takeing immediate / satisfaction of the Traders and Mr Cameron thinks they will not pass it over what adds greatly to the discontent of the Cherokees, is their being disapointed by the Carolinians who promised them 2.000 pounds of Gun Powder of what they had seized off of this place and at Georgia ~ The ammunition had actuallyben sent but the Escort was beaten off and all of it taken away by Mr Richard Cuningham who is at the head of a party in Support of Government

Lpr. 163 5th P. of...

Colonell Fletchall of the Militia having put himself at the head of 1500 Men in August last declared for Government William Henry Drayton assembled about 2000 Men at Ninety Six and sent a Manifest to Fletchalls Camp proposing an accomodation which his want of ammunition induced him to accept of But his assistant Lieut: Collonell Robert Cuningham stood out and was followed by most of the Men but about the first of November

he was surprized in his own house and made Prisoner, his Brother Richard went with a party to rescue his Brother but took a wrong road, he missed his brother but took the ammunition above mentioned.. The Rebells are collecting all their force to attack Cuningham.

In october some of the Principall Cherokee Chiefs went to Augusta in Georgia to gett a/ supply of ammunition after staying there about two weeks they gott about 600 lb Powder and ball in proportion with which they returned; They all gott Sick of a Fever which at that time Raged in Georgia one of Our best Friends Shalalusky of Toqua died much lamented by Mr Cameron

(A 40)

Endorsed Intelligence contained / in Mr Camerons Letter of / 8th Novemr 1775 - / In Mr Stuarts (No 34) of / 8th Janry 1776 / 7

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This day the Chiefs of the Lower Towns Assembled here and made the following Speech to the Party Setting off for East Florida —

[p.165]

Our Eldest Brothers sent Us several Talks, they promised us Ammunition, and after we Waited for Five moons, They tell us now; that we have none to get — They have told us nothing from the beginning but lies, but we are not Losers after all; Altho we must set down in Our hot houses without a Blanket to cover us — however we don't think its their fault, But the great Man above sent a Distemper among them which has seized the whole from Boston to Georgia, and they are now all mad. This I hope will not be our case, as we intend to have nothing to say to them, for our paths to them are grown up with Brush, We therefore desire you our Young Men to keep on your way till you find out the Track of Our Father whom they drove from the Water side, and when once you have found it, take care to follow it, till you come up with him and then stand — He will then ask You what his Children is doing, to which you will reply, That they are setting and Smoaking in their / Hot houses, without Cloath[p.166] to keep them Warm, or meat to eat, He will then have

pity on us, and to convince you of it. He will give you Cloaths, and Ammunition to kill meat, Tell him that if he sent a paper to Our Great Father over the Water, he may let him know that his Children often think of him and Remember his Walks, We hope he has still a path open to him, altho' the old path is shut up by his white Children. We desire you Who are now going to make a Straight and clear path to the Cowetas, and when you get there; tell them to assist you, That if Our Father should think fit to come among us, that no brush or Rubbish shall be in the way to meet his feet, or intercept him. — Our Brother Cowetaw told us that Our Father borrowed some Ammunition for us, but that he could not get horses. We know that he dont speak for nothing, and we hope he will find horses before the spring, and then he will send relief to his Children

A String of Beads for their Father and One for myself

(p.160) Endorsed Copy of a Talk from / the Chiefs of the Chero: kees / to the Party set.g off for / East Floridas / 8th Nov.r 1775 / In Mr. Stuarts (N.o 34) / of 8th Janry 1776 / (8)

Pensacola 9th Novemr. 1775 (p.169)

Sir

In your letter of the 14th August you declare that I will assure the Indians that there is no intention to involve them in any difficulties by the Dispute subsisting between Great Britain and her Colonies. I pray God that may be the case, for should the Indians be prompted to take up the Hatchet against the Colonies the Issues of it would be terrible, as they could not be restrained from committing the most inhuman barbarities on Women and Children &c. the People in Carolina would not believe that I am averse to acts of this nature, but they dont know the feelings and tenderness of my heart, tho my Duty to my Sovereign exceeds all other consideration. I am affraid the Indians will take satisfaction for the fellow killed in the Loaded Lands. which will probably bring on a War—

If you should continue Mr Hamilton he should take the Oath of Allegiance, and be sworn not to correspond or give any information to any of (p.170) His Majestys Enemies &c.a

I wrote to Mr William Mc Kennon some time ago to tell Mrs Stuart in case of any Disturbance in Charles Town, to endeavour to get her up to Lochaber.

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My Brother I am sure would loose his life before any insult would be offer'd her by the people. tho they have searchid my House Two or Three times since I left it. .

Mr Williamson came up here with Mr Gervais's letter to me, and was Authorized by the Council of safety to give his Bond for £300 sterling Annually if I would resign — But I told him that I would not take £300,000. at the same time I think I could not lead the Indians, against Friends, Neighbours and fellow-Subjects but more especially against Women and Children, altho the behaviour of the people would almost justify me in doing it. I am in hopes this will find you in health and Strength which is the sincear wish of

/ My Dear Sir

Your affectionate Friend
and most humble Servt
Alexander Cameron

Honble Jno Stuart Esqr.
Copy

(A.17[illegible]) Endorsed Copy of a Letter / from / Alexander Cameron / 9th Novr 1775 / to Mr Stuarts (No 34) / of 8th Janry 1776. / (9)

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N° (1) Duplycate Cape Fear 20th March 1775 (No 177)

My Lord

I am honoured with Your Lordship's Letter of 10th November, and begg leave to present my Compliments of Congratulation upon your being appointed one of His Majestys Principal Secretaries of State; I shall with great pleasure submit to your Lordship all the material occurrances in the Indian Department, and shall think myself extremly happy if my Conduct proves such as to merit your Lordship's Approbation and Patronage. . .

I was upon the Point of Embarking for Pensacola when I received General Howes order to repair to this place to meet Major General Clinton and with him to concert the measures to be pursued respecting the Indians, nothing has as yet been determined upon, whatever shall be thought Expedient I shall most faithfully lay before your Lordship —

I have the Honour of being with the greatest Respect

My Lord / Your Lordships
most Obedient and
Most Humble Servt
John Stuart

To
The Right Honble
Lord George Germain &c.

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N° 3) Cock's Spur in Georgia 20th May 1776 [p. 101]

My Lord

I had the Honour of writing to your Lord.
ship the 22d March from Cape Fear River.

I remained at Cape Fear until the Ar.
rival of the Troops, as General Clinton thought
my so doing necessary. upon the 8th of this month
I sailed from thence and arrived here yesterday in
the Hinchinbrook armed vessel in which I proceed
immediatly to Saint Augustine and from thence
to Pensacola

During my stay at Cape Fear I was cutt off
from any correspondence with my Deputies in the In.
dian Countries, and of course received no Intelligence
of Indian Affairs; since my Arrival here I have been
told that the Indian Agents appointed by the Con
tinental Congress have had meetings with the Creek
and Cherokee Indians, at which a great many of each [p. 102]
Nation attended, and engaged to remain Neuter in
the Quarrel between Great Brittain & her Colonies,
notwithstanding which, I do not despair of getting
them to Act for His Majesty's Service when deemed
Necessary.

[As I have no Instructions from General
Howe or General Clinton to Employ the Indians.
and as No plan, for my Government, has been

communicated to me, I shall use my utmost en-
deavours to Keep the Indians in Temper and dis-
posed to act when required, without attempting
any thing further untill I shall first have been
honoured with your Lordship's or said General's
Orders]

I have the Honour of being with the ut-
most Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's

Most obedient and

Most humble Servt

John Stuart .

The Right Hon^ble.

Lord George Germain.

Secretary of State &c.

[R.1866] Endorsed Lochspur - Georgia / 20^th. May 1776 / Mr. Stuart /
(N°. 3) / Rd 5th. July. / Encl.d

New Yonica on the Mississippi 12th May 1775 [p.193]

Sr./

I am truly Sorry that necessity compels me to intrude on your more Momentous affairs, and from your well known goodness of heart, I hope you will pardon the freedom to acquaint you, that my little private fortune has Sufferid for the Publick good in this remote region relative to Indian Matters and Concerns, Since April in the year 1765. at Which time it is well known, that no Tribe or Nation of Louisiana Indians was in favour of the English, and my nearest Neighbours were French, at the distance of fourteen Leagues. Since that Period of time, English Planters of Some fortune are Settled on the banks of this famous River, and all the Savage Nations Seem to be very well Satisfied in favour of British Subjects, and as my Sufferings in circumstance is well known by means of the Annual estimate of £600 not being adequate to the undertaking I have gone thro' in the Indian department. I hope that the best of Kings my Master, thro' your kind humane repre-sentation will consider a faithfull Subject of a broken Constitution for the good of the Service.

The Yonica Indians / who fired upon and [p.194]
caused the 22d Regiment of foot to retreat on their

Voyage to the Illonois are now brought to their true Sense of duty, and as a token of My esteemed Con.-duct; they have given me a Deed of gift for a tract of land which I hope will be approved of by the King. but if I have done wrong in accepting of Such tract of Ground. Indian property. I beg pardon of His Majesty. and all my Superiours Who may dis.-approve of My Conduct, and of course the deed will be Null and Void

as I am Very infirm of the Gout in my bed, I hope you will excuse My good friend and Companion Doctor Fontenelle (of the Artillery) and me to request him to Send you a Coppy of the Said deed of Voluntary Gift. His Excellency Governour Chester did not approve of My residing on the Kings reserved land, which has been the cause of great expence to me, as I had no fund to build a House or Hutt, or clear Woods for the purpose. Neither have I received any consideration in consiquence thereof.

I beg you to believe me to be with true Sense of gratitude and great Respect

Sr. your Most obdt. & most Humb. Ser-

John Thomas

To John Pownall Esqr.

[A 196] Endorsed New Jonica, on the Mississippi / 12th May 1776 / Lieut. Thomas. / JP. / Rd 24th July - / Entd

(N°. 1.) Whitehall 5th Sept.r 1776 [p.197]

Mr. Stuart

Sir,

The Impossibility of forming any cer. tain judgement here of the Effects which the Operations carrying on to the Northward might have upon the Savages in your Department, or of the Measures which the Commander in Chief might think fit to adopt in consequence of the Events which might attend those Operations, added to the Difficulty of a safe Conveyance, prevent. ed my opening a Correspondence with you since I have been honored with the Seals of Secretary of State. You will, however, have been informed by Gov.r Tonyn that your Vigi. lance & Attention, to counteract the Machina. tions of the Rebel Emissaries & to prevent the Defection of the / Savages, were very much ap. proved, which will I hope have excited you to [p.198] continue to exert the same Zeal & Activity for securing their Fidelity, and in the Execution of such Orders as you may have received from the Commander in Chief.

The Failure of the late Attempt upon Charles Town will, no doubt, throw a great Advantage into the Scale of the Rebels &.

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increase your Difficulties; but I trust your Influence will be found superior to every Motive they can urge, or Inducement in their Power to hold out to draw the In-
-dians from their Allegiance.

The very ample Credit given you by General Gage will enable you to defray whatever Expence this most essential Service
[p. 199] may be / attended with; and as your Agents Messrs. Grahams, Johnston & Co. had permis-
-sion to send you the Ammunition & Arms you mention, in your Letter of the 17th Decem-
-ber, to have ordered them to procure for you, as far as they thought proper to execute your Order, every Assistance has been given you by Government that you desired for strengthening your Hands, & giving Efficacy to your Negociations,

[Should General Howe find himself in a Condition to extend his Operations to the Southern Colonies in the Winter, the Assistance of the Indians will be of the utmost Conse-
-quence; and you will no doubt receive timely Orders from the General to engage as large
[p. 200] / a Number as possible for that Purpose. You will therefore have that Service in view in

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all your Transactions with those People;
and if you find the making Peace be-
-tween the Chactaws & Creeks will facili-
-tate your obtaining Parties from both Na-
-tions to co-operate with the King's Troops,
it will certainly be your Duty to take
upon you the Management of that Busi-
-ness, & to accomplish it as speedily as possible.

In Expectation of this Service becom-
-ing necessary, and to prevent any Disap-
-pointment from the defective Execution of
your Orders to your Agents, a Supply of
Goods suitable for Presents to the Indians
is preparing, by the Direction of the Lords
Commiss^rs of the Treasury, and will be
sent [201] to Pensacola on board an armed Ord-
-nance Store Ship that is to sail in about
a Month; and I have the Satisfaction to
acquaint you, that in consequence of a
Representation which I thought fit to
make to their Lordships, of the Difficul-
-ties which the Operation of the restrain-
-ing Act would probably lay you under in
obtaining Value for your Bills on the Com-
-mander in Chief, these Lordships have au-
-thorized me to direct you to draw upon

the Treasury for the Amount of your Estimate, until such time as things shall return into their former Channel, and of which I have acquainted General Howe.

accompanying your Bills with proper Letters of advice

[p. 202]

This, however, is a Licence which is only to be made use of by yourself, for none of your Deputies must take that Liberty; and it is the more necessary for you to give them the most positive Orders to that purpose, as some Bills drawn by Mr. Thomas have been presented for Payment, and being accompanied by a Letter from you to him, which seemed to countenance his drawing in that manner, their Lordships were pleased to order them to be paid.

Your Letters to the Earl of Dartmouth of the 17th. of December, 6th., 8th. & 19th. of Janry & 10th. of Febry have been received, the four former only in June last; the latter with the Map of your District referred to therein came to hand the 10th. of May; and as it appears

[p 203]

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to be executed with great Accuracy, will be very useful in furnishing us with just Ideas of that Country. I have also received your Letters to me numbered 1 & 3, but that numbered 2 is still missing.

I am &c.ª

Geo: Germain

Endorsed Draft to / Mr. Stuart, Superintendant / for the Southern / District / Whitehall 5th Sept.r 1776. / Entd. Dupr.

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N° 4) Saint Augustine 6th June 1776

My Lord

Since my Letter to your Lordship of 20th May N°3) I have not been honoured with any of your Commands.

[Upon my Arrival here I received Letters from the Agents in the different Nations which confirm my Dependence on the good Disposition of the Indians Notwithstanding all the Machinations and endeavours of the Rebells to gain them to their party:] I am just embarking for Pensacola where I shall meet all the principal Chiefs, and endeavour to cultivate their good Disposition.

The Creek Indians are so earnest in soliciting my Mediation between them and the Chactaws, that I shall be/ Obliged to comply rather than disoblige them, [p.206] at this juncture; as I have submitted this matter, I hope to be honoured with your Lordships orders relative to it. General Clinton is of Opinion, that at this time it would be bad Policy to refuse their request.

I begg leave to submit to your Lordship, Copies of two Letters which I wrote to General Clinton at Cape Fear, as they give a just Idea of the present State of Indian Affairs. Should it be judged necessary & expedient to employ the Indians in my District, I humbly hope it will appear to your Lordship to be reasonable & proper that the Superintendant be placed in

such a Situation as may enable him to support his Consequence in the Eyes of the Indians and prevent his being clashed with in the Management of them: without something of this Nature, he must appear Amongst Officers of Rank, in a very inferior Character; or as a mere follower of the Camp, from which great Detriment may result to His Majesty's Service, and/ I must flatter myself, that Your Lordship, from your intimate and extensive Knowledge of Military Service, would wish to see an Officer who has long and faithfully served His Majesty; in an Agreable Situation. Lieu.t General Clinton approved of this Idea and thought something of the Kind Necessary.

Your Lordship's Commands for me will come soonest by the Way of Jamaica. I have the Honour of being with the utmost Respect

My Lord

Your Lordship's most

obedient & most humble/ Servant

John Stuart

The Right hon.ble
Lord George Germain
one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State

[P. 208] Endorsed St. Augustine 6.th June 1776./ Mr. Stuart./ (No. 11)/
Rd 13.th September./ (2 Inclosures.) / Entd.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LI... CONGRESS

Sir

(N 209)

As the important Business in which you are engaged may not leave you time for making a particular inquiry into the State of Indian Affairs in the Southern District, and as I can collect and Arrange more clearly what Information I have to communicate by committing it to writing than by trusting to my memory I take the liberty of Submitting to you what appears to me to be the present State of Indian Affairs in the Southern District.

That you may the more clearly comprehend what I have the honour of Submitting, I beg leave to premise that before the Appointment of Superintendants which in the Southern District was I think in the year 1756 the Governour of So. Carolina with propriety took the lead in the management of the Neighbouring Indian Tribes. I say with propriety because before that time Georgia under the Trustees was of no consequence, and East & West Florida belonged to the Crowns of Spain and France, but upon Georgia & the Two Floridas becoming seperate Governments and the Removal of the French and Spaniards beyond the Mississippi, the management of the Indian Tribes became an object worthy of the attention of Administration;

and the sole management of the Indians Could no longer Remain in the Governour of So Carolina, for the three new provinces of Georgia East and West Florida are by their Situation equally if not more intimately connected with them, and the Respective Governours thought themselves equally intitled to interfere, from which a Clashing and Competition must have arisen unfavourable to the proper Management of the Indians, and which might have proved fatal to the Infant Colonies had not Superintendants been appointed whose Jurisdictions were to extend throughout the Nations in those Respective Districts (p. 210) without being particularly connected with any Province; but these Officers were left to Act in the best Manner they could without any line for their Conduct or any well defined powers, they were of some use from their Knowledge of the Indians, but far from answering the purpose of their Appointment, for Traders licensed by the different Governours under different Regulations filled the Indian Nations with Confusion by their enormities and Competition for Trade.

In the Year 1764 the Lords Commissioners of Trade drew up a plan for the management of Indians, to be established by act of Parliament, which was sent out to the different Governours

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for their Opinion and remarks before it should be laid before the Parliament, but as by that plan the management of Indians and Traders was to have been in the Superintendants it was opposed by all the Governours, and laid aside; the Superintendants continuing to Represent the danger of the irregularities of the Traders were in 1766 by the Secretary of States Letters vested with a temporary power of keeping the Traders under Regulations until a final arrangement by Government should take place, this altho much opposed by the Governours had a good Effect and by the Vigilence and activity of the Commissaries appointed by the Superintendants to carry the Regulations into execution, good order amongst the Traders was established, and as the Jealousy of of the Indians esp. on account of their Lands was in a great measure removed, by the Ascertaining and making Boundary Lines between them and the provinces confirmed by formal Treaties they became extremely well disposed, and in a State of Friendship which promised tranquility to the frontiers. This continued till the year 1768 when the Representations of the different Governours Respecting the Expediency of / keeping up the Superintendancy, and [p.211] the management of the Indians in General was laid

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before the Board of Trade by the Earl of Shelbourne. His Lordship resigned the Seals and was succeeded by My Lord Hillsborough before the Board of Trade reported upon this important subject. The Report of the Board of Trade with His Majesty's orders upon it were communicated by the Earl of Hillsborough in a Circular Letter dated 7th. March 1768. by which the management of the Trade Reverted to the Provinces, and the particular duties of the Superintendants immediatly under His Majesty's orders were pointed out. These are negociating for Land, and Establishing Boundaries, Renewing ancient Treaties or Covenants, and managing all the Concerns of the Indians Unconnected with Trade or the particular local Concerns of any Province. From this time the Traders relapsed to their former disorders and put Indian Affairs into the greatest Confusion; from a View of this Line you will easily perceive the difficult Situation of the Superintendants — The regulation of the Trade and a Curb upon the Traders is most essential in the management of the Indians, in so much that divesting the Superintendants of this Power, they in a manner became little more than nominal Officers; from the time that the management of the trade reverted to the Provinces, the power and

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Regulations of the Superintendants ceased and as the Commissaries in the different Nations for Carrying the Superintendants Regulations into Execution were dismissed, the Governours avail'd themselves of the Knowledge and Influence of the Traders; Consider Sir the absurdity of Conducting (Page 2) all their measures by people whom they were to Curb and Restrain, and what dependance could be had upon information thro' such a Channel. The Traders relieved from the power of the Superintendants immediatly became their Enemies and upon every occasion endeavoured to Counteract them and many of them put in a Situation effectually to do so by their being employed by the Governours to Conduct their Bussiness in the different Nations. The Superintendants however found it necessary to appoint Agents in all the Nations to keep them informed of all material Occurrences and to conduct such Bussiness as they should be charged with by His Majesty's Ministers or the Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces and in the Southern District, it is owing to the Address of these Agents, and my own personal Knowledge of and influence with the different Chiefs that the Indians are at this time so well disposed as greatly to Allarm the

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Rebellious Provinces and it is from a sence of this Influence that I have suffered and continue in my Family and Estate to Suffer the most severe. lenting persecution from them — Yet as the persons Employed by the Continental Congress to Counter. act me and debauch the Indians, have been long acquainted and connected with them, and as they are furnished with considerable funds - It must be expected that the competition will be very great.

The Rebell Agents or Commissioners are

[p. 213] George Galphin / for many years a Trader in the lower Creek Nation by which he has Acquired a considerable fortune and became unavoidably acquaint. ed with many of the Chiefs but this sort of acquaint. ance would not have given much weight, had he not upon every occasion been employed by Sir James Wright and Lieut.nt Governour Bull to interfere in Indian Affairs, and to carry whatever point they had in View; The influence derived from his being so employed, he now exerts in behalf of the Rebells whose Commissioner he is. Mr. Rea many years a Trader from Augusta to the Creek Nation Licens. ed by Sir James Wright, he and his Partner Graham were employed by the Congress of Georgia to distri. bute Ammunition to the Creek Indians they under. took to seize and deliver Mr Taitt my Agent to

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the Congress and carried up Handcuffs for that purpose but found his influence with the Indians superior to theirs. Mr. Edward Wilkinson many years a Trader in the Cherokee Nation, Friend and Agent of Mr Bull Lieut. Govr. of South Carolina. These have lately had a meeting at Salisbury with Commissioners appointed in the Northern District the result of their conferences is not as yet Known, they are empowered to lay out Several thousand pounds sterling and have called Congresses of the Cherokees at Fort Charlotte 16th. April and of the Creeks at Augusta the 1st. May —

I must acquaint your Sir that from the Beginning of the present Troubles I have never had any order or Instruction from the Secretary of State for my Conduct, and it was not / untill (a 2d) the Month of October that I received General Gage's Orders contained in his Letter of 12th September last.

In consequence of the Generals order I immediatly sent my Brother by Sea to Pensacola with Orders to proceed from thence to the Creek and afterwards to the Cherokee Nations with the Instructions of which I have a Copy for Your perusal, and I inabled him to carry a considerable Supply of Ammunition to strengthen his hands, and before I had the Generals Orders I invited the Creeks to come and see me, and the Chiefs

of the lower Nation met me accordingly in East Florida last Novr~ but the Chiefs of the Upper Creek nation in whom I mostly confide, declined meeting me in East Florida, because of the great distance & their War with the Chactaws, as they must have left their Villages exposed to the Ravages of that Enemy who is perpetually harrassing them. They however sent me very Friendly Talks, and in the most pressing Terms Solicited my mediation to make peace between them and the Chactaws. I have promised to meet them at Pensacola in the Spring. and have ordered out a Considerable Supply of Arms Ammunition &c from England which I have reason to expect there by the begining of April _ Altho' the terms of General Gages Letter are to Employ the Indians in distressing the Rebels, by all the ways and as much as possible; yet I could not Construe this to mean an indiscriminate attack upon the Frontier Inhabitants of the Provinces which would involve the friends of Government, the innocent & defenceless in them, and would induce a Coalition of all parties
[R 215] for repelling / a Common Enemy, I therefore Instruct.
=ed my Agents to dispose the Indians to Act Under their directions when required, but not to take any step except in the Execution of some connected plan jointly with the friends of Government, or to

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favour the Operations of His Majesty's Forces by drawing the attention of the Rebells; I have copies of all my Letters upon this Subject for your perusal.

From the professions and behaviour of the Indians who met me at East Florida particularly of the Cherokees, I have reason to depend upon their Disposition to act as directed and this is confirmed by Letters from the different Agents in the Indian Countries, but as I before observ.ed, in order to get the Creeks to Act it will be absolutely necessary to bring about a Reconciliation between them & the Chactaws, which I have no doubt of being able to accomplish when at West-Florida --

The Chactaws & Chickasaws are absolut.ly at our disposal, but their distance from the Scene of Action is great, and to do Bussiness Effec.tualy a Coalition of all the Indian Tribes must be brought about -

In managing the Indian Bussiness which at this time is of much Importance, the Expence must be considerable and will be greatly increased by the Competition of the Rebells but altho General Gage by his Orders does not confine me to any Sum. yet I find insurmountable difficulty to

House money by bills upon Boston, which I am certain will not be practicable & upon this head [P. 216] I beg to be honoured / with your Sentiments and Advice —

I now conclude with Assureing you Sir, that I shall with the greatest pleasure follow your directions, Respecting the Indians. having the honour to be with great Respect

Endorsed Copy of a Letter to / General Solinton from / the Superintendant / dated 15 March 1776 / In Mr Stuart's (N.o 4) of / 6th June 1776. / (1)

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[John Stuart to Henry Clinton]

(Copy) Cape Fear River 9th May 1776 [p.217]

Sir

I now submit what occures to me upon the several Matters which you did me the Honour to communicate to me,

first with respect to the conveying of a Number of Troops to the Tuckabatchie Town in the upper Creek Nation. sufficient time must be allowed to provide Batteaus, Batteau men and Pilots the last are to be had amongst the French Inhabitants of Mobille or at new Orleans, with the permission of the Spanish Governour where the Batteaus may be got, in case they cannot be procured at Mobille, to facilitate which a Letter from you to Don Luis de Unzaga Governour of New Orleans to be used in case of need will be necessary.

Immediatly upon my Arrival I shall send for the Chiefs of the Creek nation, and I have not the least doubt of Engageing their Assistance to the Troops.

If you will be pleased to give me directions I shall lose no time, after my Arrival in West Florida, in endeavouring to engage such a number of Horses as you may think necessary that no time may be lost after the Arrival / of the Troops in the Nation, [p.218] as their making any stay there may be inconvenient in many respects.

In the mean time I propose that an Express

should be sent off immediatly upon my Arrival at St. Augustine with directions to Mr Cameron Mr. Henry Stuart, & Mr Browne to prepare the Friends of Government, for what you propose, that Lord William Campbell write them upon this subject Giving such directions as you & his Lordship shall think proper, but this must be done with great caution not to excite the jealousy of the Rebels who are extremly watchfull. And I submit the propriety of their being Assured by something in the form of a Manifesto, at a proper time, that upon the restoration of Government and the Constitution, the Governour will use his Endeavours to obtain for them a more equal Representation than they hitherto have had. that Schools and Churches be Established amongst them and that the public money shall be Applied for their Benefit in a just and Equal proportion.

I likewise humbly propose that a Proclamation from the Governour be sent up and published in the Back Settlements at a proper time revoking all the Commissions Granted by Lieuten.t Govern.r Bull [p.219] or any former Governour and Empowering / certain Persons to Administrate the State oaths and fill up Blank Commissions, to such Persons as are of approved Character & attached to Government.

I am happy in your choice of Capt.n Mulcaster

to conduct the Troops that are to be sent upon this Service, not only from his Knowledge of the Woods, but every other qualification, I took the Liber-ty of mentioning to you Major Alexr Dickson who Commands the 16th Regiment at Pensacola, as a per-son of great Merit. Who I am convinced would wish to be employed upon such services. In Or-der to avoid Competition & Clashing it appears to me to be proper that the Above Gentlemen, or whom-soever you may think fit to appoint, have Com-missions from the Governours of Sc & North Caro-lina & Georgia as the Opperations may be extended to the three Provinces.

I have Submitted to you the bad Conse-quences which will certainly attend, the interfereing by either the Military or Militia Officers, in the Management of the Indians, on the Contrary I am humbly of opinion that every step be taken to give the Officers in the Indian Department consequence in the Eyes of the Indians, and altho they are to Act in / concert with the Person to whom you shall [p.220] intrust the Chief management of this Service, Yet there Appearing to Act under any other Authority than mine must as much as possible be avoided.

I propose to be as Active in forwarding this Important Service as I can, I therefore wish to be in

a Situation not to be thwarted or Counteracted in the Management of my Indians, but that my Conduct may be directed by Your Ideas and the plan you shall adopt, and if the Indians are to be employed as Active Instruments, then, a certain Degree of Rank to the Officers in my Department conducting the Indians will be necessary to avoid perpetual disputes with officers of Rank

I submit a List of the Officers in the Indian Department, who will probably have the principal conduct of the Indians. With Respect to myself I wish to be put in a Situation to forward and Execute Your Views, and what Instructions I may Receive, and to support my consequence with the Indians by Your Instructions to Your officers & to me, and by any such Commission as the Governours of S.o Carolina or other provinces may judge sufficient for that purpose

I have the honour of being &c.a

(Sd)

Endorsed In Mr. Stuarts (N.o 11) of / 6th. June 1776 / (2) / d.r

(N°. 2.) Whitehall 6th Novr 1776 [p.237]

Mr. Stuart.

Sir,

[The inclosed Triplicate of my Letter to you of the 6th Septr will inform you of the very liberal Supply of Goods for Presents to the Indians, which has been directed to be sent to you, and I have now the Satisfaction to acquaint you that a considerable part (all that could be got ready in the time) is shipped on board the Lord Amherst Store Ship, which is now ready to sail for Pensacola, intending to stop for a short time only at Jamaica in her way. I expect with some Impatience to hear from you / of the Success [p.238] of your Negociation with the Creeks & Chactaws, and that you have prevailed with them to join the Cherokees, who I find have already commenced Hostilities against the Rebels in Carolina & Virginia. The Rebel Government in the former Province have I also learn not only offered considerable Rewards for the Scalps of those Indians, but declared their Children of a certain Age, which may be taken Prisoners, the Slaves of the Captors, a Measure which I am sure must

inflame the Enmity of that Nation to the highest Pitch against them, and ex-
-cite the Resentment of all the other Indians
[p 239] in so / great a degree, that I cannot doubt of
your being able, under such Advantageous Cir-
-cumstances, to engage them in a General Con-
-federacy against the Rebels, in defence of those
Liberties of which they are exceedingly jealous,
& in the full enjoyment of which they have
always been protected by The King.

At this distance, & before the Issue
of the Campaign to the Northward can be
known here it is impossible to give you any
Instructions for the Employment of the Savages;
Genl Howe will no doubt give you full Di-
-rections when he has formed his plan of
[p 240] Operations against the Southern Colonies. / In
the mean time as the Cherokees have declar-
-ed for Us, they must be supported, &, it will
be your Duty to procure them all the Aid
in your Power, from the other Indian Nations,
and to supply them with Arms and Ammu-
-nition, &, other Necessaries, to enable them to
carry on the War. I am not without hopes
that Govr Tonyn will find means of assist-
-ing them with a Detachment of his numerous

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Garrison, and if the well affected Inhabi-
tants in the Back Countries could be col-
lected & embodied to conduct & support the
Indians; the Rebels on the Sea Coast would
soon feel the Distress from the want of
their accustomed Supplies, the discontent of
the People with / the new mode of Govern-[p. 2011]
ment would increase with that Distress, and
Resentment against the Authors of their calami-
ties would be the necessary Consequence.]

Inclosed I send you, by The King's
Command, printed Copies of His Majesty's
most Gracious Speech at the Opening of the Ses-
sion, together with the Addresses of both
Houses of Parliament to His Majesty in re-
turn, which I have the Pleasure to acquaint
you were passed in both Houses by very
great Majorities.

I am &c.ª

Geo: Germain

Endorsed Draft to Mr Stuart. / 6th Novr 1776. / (N. 2.) / Entd [p. 202]

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N°. 5) Pensacola 23d. August 1776 [A. 264]

My Lord

Since my Letters to your Lordship N° 2, 22d march from Cape Fear N° 3, 20th May from Cockspur in Georgia N° 4, 6 June from Saint Augustine, I have not been honoured with any of your Lordships commands.

I embarked in the Hinchinbrook at Saint Augustine on the 8th June, and arrived at this place the 24th Ultimate, where I found the Several Letters from my Deputies in, and Messages from the Indians of the different Nations of which I have the honour to submit Copies, that your Lordship may in the fullest manner see the Situation of Indian Affairs, and the steps taken by me to keep the Indians disposed to act for His Majesty without rashly engageing them to fall upon the Settlements.

In my Letter to the Earl of Dartmouth N° 31 I had the honour of Submitting to His Lord-ship, my reasons for Employing Mr Henry Stuart to go through the Indian Nations in this District, as well as a Copy of / my Instructions to him. He ac- [A. 265] cordingly proceeded thro' the Chactaw and Chickasaw Nations to the Cherokees & having remained there some months he Continued his Journey thro' the Creek Settlements and Arrived here the 20th of this

Month. I am sorry to be informed by him that the Cherokees have fallen upon the back Inhabitants of the Provinces and committed Great devastation, notwithstanding his and Mr. Camerons utmost Efforts to restrain them untill they should be called upon to act in the Execution of some well concerted plan under such direction as might lead them against the Enemies of Government, and save the innocent and defenceless from becoming the Victims of their Savage fury: Many circumstances concurred to hasten this Event.

The Jealousy of the Indians upon account of their Land, I have always considered as the principal Source of their discontent and uneasyness, this would have been removed by the Establishment of Boundary Lines, if proper regard had been paid to those agreed upon Marked and ratified by Treaties in the Southern District, and if the Western Confederacy had acquiesced in the Extensive Cession made by the Six Nations to Sir William Johnson at Fort Stanwix but unfortunatly this did not happen, for in this District Amazing great settlements beyond the Established Boundaries in the hunting Grounds [p. 249] of the Cherokees / have been made upon Tracts held under Tittles obtained from Individuals by taking advantage of their Wants and poverty, or by Forgeries and Frauds of different sorts. in which the Nation never

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Acquiesced; for they are Tennants in common, and allow no person however so great to Cede there Lands without the Consent of the Nation obtained in General Council. The Settlements made upon the Lands ceded to Sir William Johnson, by the Six Nations, gave equal umbrage to Shawnese Delawares and other Tribes of the Western Confederacy. In 1770 they attempted to form a General Confederacy of all the Southern Nations, to recover & Maintain possession of there Lands, and sent Messengers with the proper tokens to the Southern Indians for that Purpose; but the Creeks Chickasaws &, Chactaws refused to Accede as they did not think themselves aggrieved in that respect, and the Cherokees would not Venture at that time to declare their Concurrence altho they received from the Deputies a painted Hatchet which remained in their Town untill the present distracted State of America has Afforded such an Opportunity as they wished for.

A Great Number of Families wishing to Avoid the Calamities of a rancorous Civil War have Migrated from the different Provinces, to Seek bread and Peace in those remote deserts, and a very / Extensive and popu- [p 250]
lous Settlement is made upon Lands pretended to have been purchased by one Henderson a Lawyer from North Carolina; Situated between Holstein's River

and the Ohio, Similar Settlements have been Made upon Watoga and Holsteins Rivers, of many hundred Families, all which are beyond the Boundary Lines Stipulated by Treaties. Mr Cameron endeavoured to quiet the Minds of the Indians upon Account of these encroachments, by Assurances that as soon as peace should take place; Justice would be done them; but they became exceedingly alarmed by seeing a Row of Stockaded Forts, 15 Miles distant from each other erected by the Rebells along their Frontiers and at a Small distance from their Towns, they saw the back Inhabitants in Rebellion and every where in Arms, the Friends of Government distressed, disarmed and driven from their houses, many of whom were pursued by the Rebells into their Towns, whither they had fled for shelter & protection. The Indians at last flew to Arms, attacked killed or took prisoners many of the pursuing Parties. Although Mr Cameron was in Constant danger of assassination, and the Indians were threatned with invasion should they dare to protect him. Yet still he found means to prevent their falling upon the Settlements.

Such was the Situation of Affairs in the
(p 251) Cherokee / Nation, when Mr Henry Stuart arrived there with a Supply of Goods and Ammunition; and here

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My Lord, I begg leave to refer your Lordship to the inclos-
-ed Account of his and Mr Camerons proceedings until
they went out in a Body against the Settlements
which Event was brought on by the Arrival of the
Deputies from the Northern & Western Tribes, who re-
-presented their own Situation as Similar to that
of the Cherokees, and the present the happy Moment
for regaining their hunting Grounds and freeing
themselves from what they considered as the great-
-est Oppression. The Cherokees are accordingly gone
against the Settlements beyond the Established Boun-
-dary Line in two great Bodies of 1300 & 700 men
declaring that they will not carry Hostilities with-
-in it but Indians without the restraint of white
Traders can be little depended upon. Mr Cameron
and the Traders who were in the Nation as well
as the Loyal Inhabitants of the Provinces who fled
thither for protection accompanyed by the old and
sensible Warriours who were averse to this precipi-
-tate Measure, are gone out with the Indians, with
a View to direct their Operations and as far as
possible to prevent their falling on the Innocent
and Defenceless Women & Children & the Freinds
of Government, as the Indians profess the Warmest
Attachment to the Kings Interest.

[p.251] At the time when the Cherokee Indians

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had this Rupture in Meditation, after having conferred with the Northern Deputies, they Sent Messengers to the Creeks with War Tokens, this they did privatly without consulting Mr Cameron, upon their Arrival in the Creek Nation, a Meeting of the Chiefs was Called where the Tokens were produced & a Talk delivered by them. Emistisigue the Principal Creek Leader asked if they brought any Letter or Credential from Mr Cameron, upon being answered that they had none he refused to take the War Tokens, and said that his Nation had determined to take no Step without orders from Me, at the same time admonished them not to injure Mr Stuart Mr Cameron or any of the King's Friends saying that if they did not soon hear of their being safe he with is people would March in a Body to the Cherokee Nation to learn what had become of them, at the Same time putting the Cherokees in Mind, that they had no door open for a Supply except through his Nation, which upon their bad behaviour he and his People would certainly shut up.

Upon the Return of the Messengers the Cherokees seemed to repent of their having been so precipitate, but they had engaged themselves too far to retreat. They saw the Necessity of Attack.

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-ing / themselves to the King's Party and of being carefull not to give Offence. Attah kulla kullah or the Little Carpenter is now with me, he came with Mr Henry Stuart and brought me a Message with a String of white Beads from the Cheifs of His Nation They appologize for the precipatate behaviour of their Young men and Assure me in the Strongest Manner that they will obey any or-der which I shall send them. Both Nations de-pend upon me for Supplies as they cannot hunt, the Creeks wait at home for orders and the Chero-kees say that they are fighting the Kings Enemies.

The Creek Nation expect to be sent for by me & I am accordingly preparing to receive them, which cannot be immediatly for want of Corn or Rice with which Articles I shall endeavour to furnish myself as soon as possible. And it will be impossible without disgusting the Chactaws & Chickasaws to Avoid meeting them also, which will create a very great Expence.

Both Creeks and Chactaws are intent on making Peace, but in bringing this about I shall not become an Instrument without I find it to be absolutly necessary for His Majestys Service, but if a peace is likely to take place I think to make a Merit with both Nations of being Mediator.

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[p. 258]

/Before I leave this Province I propose getting the Boundary Line between us and the Chactaws to the Westward marked, in the Mean time Mr Charles Stuart is to make a tour through their Nation and to enquire the reason of their late behaviour to some of the Inhabitants of this Province whose Plantations they have plundered.

I begg leave humbly to submit an Opinion to Your Lordship of the great impropriety there will be in mentioning to or making any requisition for Land from any Nation at this time; I must therefor decline entering upon this Subject without positive orders from Your Lordship, altho such an Idea prevails here

I have not had any order or Instruction for my Government in the present difficult Situation of Affairs since General Gage's Letter of 12th Sepr. 1775 of which I submitted a copy to the Earl of Dartmouth, if the Measures pursued by me meet your Lordships Approbation I shall esteem myself greatly honoured & very happy having the honour of being with the greatest Respect

My Lord / Your Lordship's

Most obedient and most /humble Servant

John Stuart

The Right Hon^ble.

Lord George Germaine &c^a &c^a

Endorsed Pensacola 23^d: Aug^st 1776./ Mr. Stuart /(No. 53)/ Rd 19th: December. / (22 Inclosures) / Ent^d

[illegible] C. C. S. Ga. p. 141 (A.W.I 137

A Talk from the Headmen & Warriors of The Lower Creek Nation in Answer to a Message from The Honble John Stuart Esqr. December 1775.

At the Coussitas 23 March 1776.

Present

The Headmen of all the Lower Towns except the Eutchies and Hitchitas

Friend, Father, & Brother

This is the day that all the Chiefs of the Lower Creeks are met, and all the Traders are here likewise present. As we have heard your Talk & likewise all the Other Talks from our White Brothers and the Talks that the whole Upper Creeks have made.

We hear that they have made a new Trad-ing Path from the Cherokees to the Creek Nation, to be white and from that to Pensacola. We the Lower Creeks agree to the Same as both our former Trad-ing Paths are shut up and no more Goods can come to Augusta, as our Traders cannot get a Sup-ply at any other place we hope that our new Path will be white & Streight from the Creeks to our White Brothers doors at Pensacola. — It may happen that some of our Red People may be go-ing up or down with some of our Traders at

different times and we hope as we are very Poor for Ammunition and Goods that our Traders will Soon get a Supply among us. We hear that our great Beloved Man desires that we Red People
(p256) must not Spoil one another; when the Eldest Brother says any thing it is not the Custom for the Youngest Brother to be against it. Altho' there are some of our Young Leading Warriors want the War Continued, But as our great Friend the Beloved Man says that he is going to send a Peace Talk to the Chactaws we agree that it shall be so and when we hear that he has Compleated the Talk and made it Straight we will go and hold each other by the Hand if required.

We are now going to Speak to our Eldest Brothers the White People; We have heard all your Talks to the Red People and Hope that you will hear ours. We thought that all the English People were as one People but now we hear that they have a difference amongst themselves. It is our desire that they will drop their Disputes and not Spoil one another, as all the Red People are living in Friendship with one another, we desire that the White People will do the Same, It is the Custom with the Red People when they send such a Talk and These tokens to prevent any of our Warriors from going to

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war, They agree and we hope the White People will do the Same, and agree to our Talk. We say again that you are Spoiling one another &, we desire that you will throw it away

We send this Wing & Tobacco as a token of Friendship and desire that the Beloved Men will Smoak the Tobacco & look at the Wing and Agree to each others Talks

[p.257] We the Chiefs of the Lower Creeks are all Assembled & met to hear your Talks and all agree to them. and Hope that you will agree to ours This comes from the Cussitaw King & the Chiefs of the Lower Creeks.

The Head Warrior of the Cussitaw
Speaker

Interpreted by
Samuel Thomas

Endorsed Copy of a Talk from the / Lower Creeks, In [p.258] Answer to the Superintendant's dated / 2d December 1775 / In Mr. Stuart's of / 23d. August 1776. / 1.

[illegible]

copy Letter Robert Rae to Samuel Thomas Interpreter (Reg)

Dear Sir

I Received yours by Saml. Minos - I am sorry that Henderson has been such a hurt to you in your trade I am sure he had no orders from me to settle there if I had suspected his going to that place he should not have gott any goods from me but he is the odest man that ever I mett with, I think it will be best for you to keep your skins in the Nation untill the fall I doubt there is but little hopes of getting a supply for the Indians from this quarter this summer. except powder which we have the promise of from Carolina the Men of War has shutt up our harbours in such a manner that not one ves. sal out of five escapes them however the Americans is fortunate on land they have retaken Boston and all Acadia is in their Possession by the inclosed youill see what plans is on foot by Capt.n Stuart and others to enslave a brave people the Gov.r [illegible] of Virginia has embodyed Negroes to cutt their Mas. (p.270) ters throat the Men of War that lyes at Rockahpur has stole & carried off upwards of 100 Negroes from this Province I hope youill never be an Instrument of bringing down a Savag. nation against your Country & the one that has given you your

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existance. you'll perhaps say it is your duty as you are in pray I say so too but Mr. Minos will satisfy you on that head all that we would wish the Indians to do is to lye quiet and not to take any part on either sides. Mr. G: G: & myself would be very glad in seeing you down here as soon as possible perhaps we could inform you of something to your advan. tage we have lately had a meeting with the Cherokees at Fort Charlotte the great pains was taken to prevent their coming down upwards of six hundred of them was there and gave every assurance that could be expected that they would take no part on any side

I am dear Sam:

Your very humble Servt:

Signed R. Rae

May 3d 1776 —

[Addressed] Endorsed Copy Letter / Robert Rae to / Samuel Thomas / 3d May 1776 / In Mr Stuarts of / 23d August 1776. / 4.

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Iroquois 7th May 1776 [v.27]

Dear

After a Tedious and dangerous Voyage through the Perry Tenassee your Brother Mr. Henry Stewart Arrived here on the 24th Ultimate the Small Quantity of Ammunition he brought from Mobille was much lessened, partly by distress of Weather and partly by a Gang of Western Indians who Attacked the Rear of his Fleet, kill'd some of the Crew and destroyed 4 Baggs of Powder and 14 Baggs of Ball the Quantity brought here is about 1000 lb of Powder and Ball in proportion which is but small when devided among the whole Nation, He was so long on his way, that I would have looked upon him as lost, had he not sent in Runners frequently; I sett out to meet him with a few Indians, some Traders, and thirty Horses to Tissoy where we remained 10 Days before the Arrival of the boats, when the Ammunition was Carried by horses the River being so high that the boats could not be brought up

I had the pleasure Sir of Receiving your Dispatches of 16th December & 29th January last. The first by Express from Mr Taitt, and / Second by Ex- [v.27a]
-press from Mr. Hamilton. You may depend upon me Sir, for doing everything in my power for the

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good of His Majestys Service and adhereing to your instructions and Orders as much as lies in my power.

The Ruling Chiefs of this Nation Solemnly promise to listen to no talks, but from the Great King and those appointed by him, to take Care of them, The Ecuy of Senneca and a great Number of Women and Children with a few young fellows of that Town, went to the Treaty at Fort Charlotte, hearing that they were to receive a great Quantity of Ammunition and other presents; Two Half Head men, and near One Hundred Women and Children and a few young fellows from the Valley, as also some from the middle Settlement but it seems they fell much short of their Expectations, and I am informed some Returned Dissatisfyed — I am also informed that Ecuy promised the Commissioners (as they are termed) to let them rebuild the Old Fort at Keowee — But the Terrapin, The Wolf, the Bear of Estatoe and Keanitah &c. just now here promise to Oppose it, first by fair means and if that should fail they are to let me know by Express. They are however very uneasie / About their Women [p. 295] / and Children, saying that if any Rupture should happen between them and the white people The Women &c. would run to the wood and Starve — I am affraid that the Inhabitants of this Settle-

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.ment have brought themselves into trouble, by Kill..
.ing One or Two white Men lately on, or near
Wataga, This day we have sent off an Express and
Nonalthuhkey to warn the Inhabitants of those Settle.
.ments to remove immediatly or abide by the Conse.
.quence, what effect this may have I know not, but
we shall have it in our power to inform you soon.
I would not willingly have the Indians to Committ
any Hostilities before some of the Kings Troops were
Actualy in Arms in N^o Carolina S^o Carolina or Georgia.
But if the Rebells will Attempt to Erect a Fort at
Keowee. I shall endeavour to prevent them.

Mr Taitt writes me that he is ready
with his people at a Call, and that he intends
as soon as he is Supplyed with more Ammunition
to march with a Number of the Creeks to the Fron.
.tiers. I am in hopes Sir that Our Ammunition
will be forwarded with the utmost Dispatch, as
well as / Some Guns, and other presents. I need not [p. 274]
mention Sir the Necessity of Supplying them plen.
.tifully with every necessary at this Time, as you
are a Competent Judge of these matters. —

Your Brother was received at Chote with
the greatest marks of Respect, Five Colours were dis.
.played on the Town House, a party Naked and
painted was Detatched from the main Body

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with two Drums and Twelve Eagle Tails to meet him at the End of the Square where they danced and Told their War Exploits by Turns five Great Guns were then discharged, after which we were taken hold of and Supported with a Beloved man under each Arm to the Town house, and Seated on bare Scabins Covered with Deer Skins &c.

As he writes you fully at this time, I shall take the Liberty Sir to be more Concise than I would otherwise have been — I shall request that You will be pleased to send me about Fifty pound Sterling or more by Mr Colbert. I shall also want half a Dozen Small Medals for people whom I think deserve them, Be pleased at the Same time Sir to give the Chickasaw Slave Catcher a Small medall there. He is a very good Resolute Old fellow — Kemi.tatah wants One also, he had the Old One [illegible] taken from him by the Enemy Some/ Years ago —

Captain Buchanan whom I mention.ed to you in my letters of 13 & 24 January last sett out for the Creek Nation about the be.ginning of march last where I believe he still remains — I have not heard what became of Captain Innis or Mr Mc Lauvin Since — I

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intend a Tour to the Valleys and perhaps farther in a few Days -- I have the honor to be with great Respect and esteem

Sir

your most humble
& most Obedient Servt
Alexr Cameron

The
Honble Jno Stuart Esqr

[N 230]

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Alexr Cameron Esqr / To / John Stuart Esqr / dated 4th May 1776 from / Toquech / In Mr Stuarts of / 23d August 1776 / 5

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[p.1.01]

Toqua in the Cherokee Nation 7th May 1776

To the Inhabitants of Watauga & Nonathuchky & others settled on this side the Boundary line

Humanity and a sincere desire to preserve innocent and wrong informed people from the great danger that seemes to threaten them are our only motives for writing to you at this time

We have lately found a general discontent among the Indians particularly among the Young people on account of the new Settlements made on this side the boundary line especially those of Watauga and Nonathuchky which are more im. mediatly in their neighbourhood, which had it not been for us might have proved fatal to many before time.

At a meeting we had some days ago with the principal Headmen from the different parts of the nation, we mentioned to them that we perceived a discontent among their people on account of the new Settlements; We promised that we would write to you to remove to a Country more favourable to industrious White people and that we did not doubt but we should obtain a favourable answere: in the meantime we begged that their young Fellows might be restrained from

committing any acts of Violence

If any of your people should be inclin-
able to remove to West Florida We venture to
say that the Indians will not molest them.
(1222) We promise on our parts to any / of them that
are disposed to go that way and to live as good
and peaceable subjects, Certificates that will obtain
immediate grants of Land for them in a Cli-
mate and Situation much better suited to in-
dustrious white people than where you now live
and where you may hope to rise in the world
by your industry

We are sensible that your removing at
this season of the Year must be attended with a
great deal of trouble and inconvenience, but this
consideration is but trifling when compared to the
danger to which Yourselves your families and ef-
fects must be exposed from a Merceyless & enrag-
ed Enemy, if you should think of remain-
ing longer on their land, to which the Indians
never will acknowledge your claim. A Claim in
which You never can hope to be supported by
Government or the Laws of your Country. They
have now sent you a talk which we inclose.

The Nothing in our power shall be
wanting to prevent the Indians from (aid) you any

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injury We can have no hopes of any applica-
tion of ours in your behalf having any ef-
fect should not your answere prove Satisfactory.

The Indians expect that you will re-
move in twenty days

We are

Your Humble Servts

Signed Henry Stuart

Alexr Cameron

[N.284]

Endorsed Copy of a letter from / Henry Stuart and /
Alexr. Cameron Esqrs. / To / The Inhabitants of /
Watauga and / Nonathuchly (sic) & others / Settled on this
Side yr / Boundary Line dale / Togua y^th May 1776 /
In Mr. Stuarts of 23d. / August 1776. / 6.

[p.295]

Toquah in the Overhill Cherokee
Nation 7 May 1776.

Sir

I wrote you from the Chickesaws a day or two before I set out for this Nation, which I hope you have received at Pensacola

I arrived here only the 24th Ult. after a very tedious & dangerous Voyage, 55 days from the Chickesaws; we brought in with us 21 Horse Load of Ammunition out of 30, One load was left at the Chickesaws, 2 Loads were divided among the Party that waited for me at the River, 2 loads damaged & 4 bags Powder were taken & destroyed and 14 Baggs of Ball thrown overboard by a Party of Enemy Indians, who attacked some of our Boats & Killed some of our Party; the Ball that was thrown over board may be got again when the River is low, when we came to the River I was told that we might get up in 15 or 20 days and that I would be 15 days going up by Land thro' a very Rugged Road. I preferred the Easiest way as I imagined there would be so little difference, And indeed after first setting out while the Water was low enough for us to Pole we went so fast that I was in Hopes to get up in the time the Indians promised, but altho I should have liked the Voyage very well at any

other time I soon began to Repent my having undertaken it at this time the River rose to a great height and so rapid that we could make no way with our Paddles and the Indians could not be prevailed on to go along but when they thought proper –

(P. 296) /I found your Letter of 29 January here on Arrival, I was very happy to receive it, you do not mention whether you received a Letter that I wrote to you by Return of the Pilot Boat that I came Round in, I hope she has got safe back. I Observe what you say about Sparing some Ammunition to some of the People in the Back Settlements, If I had brought the Sixty Horse Load that I intended it would have been far from being Sufficient for this Nation, if they should go on Actual Service; I have consulted with Mr. Cameron, and we are of Opinion that Three Thousand weight of Powder with Ball in proportion will be necessary besides what I have brought, to Supply them properly, as their Sole dependance at present is on you, I have therefore wrote to Mr. Taitt to send down 30 Horses which with my Horses that were purchased to Carry the Ammunition to the Chickesaw Nation will be sufficient to Carry up that Quantity I have likewise sent by Mr. Colbert a List of some

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things for presents which are likewise Necessarey. you may perhaps think that Expences increase very fast. but you ought to consider this as paying the Brave Troops and not as presents to people who if brought over will prove dangerous Enemies.

We had a Meeting a few days ago of all the principal Headmen from the different Parts of the Nation except the Valley & a few from the lower Towns They gave Assurances of their Attachment to His Majesty and they beggd that I would acquaint their Father of this, and acquaint him that [p.129] their whole dependance for Assistance is on him, they say that perhaps the Rebels may give out they have gott them over to their side because a few of their People from the Valley & Lower Towns went to meet the Commissioners at Fort Charlotte, but they hope their Father will not credit this, for they have been & Still continue firm. They say for the People that went, that it was the want of Ammunition that induced them, but that they believed the Talks of the people who invited them made no Impression on them I am informed that some of them that returned say that they had very little for their trouble. a fellow named Yachtina from the Valley was most Caressed, he in return paid great Respect to

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& confirmed some Indian Honours on one Colston a Noted Horse Thief Commandant of Fort Charlotte. I am firmly of opinion that the Indians who went to Fort Charlotte never would have gone, if they had been properly Supplied. I therefore conceive that Expence must not be Spared at this time, the Sum necessary to Support 3 Regiments of Foot would Effectually bind all the Indians of our Department to our Interest, and If they should be drawn away from us, we may find that Ten Regiments will do but little against them. The Cherokees are so hemmed in by the new Settlements at Holstons River & Wataga and by the Inhabitants of Carolina & Georgia, that they are afraid & can do but little with any Safety untill they are well supplied. the People in this (p. 200) Part are very much discontented on Account of the Settlements at Wataga on this Side the Boundary Line and I have had some difficulty in Restraining their Young people from falling on them too Rashly which might be attended with bad Consequences for the Settlers are very numerous and I imagine would at this time be Supported by the Dissaffected Party in Virginia, we have wrote to them & are in Hopes that many of them who are well disposed will remove to West Florida, We

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have promised them Certificates, that we doubt not will Obtain Lands for them, but we Intend first to offer them an Oath of Allegiance. We have had all the white people in this part of the Nation to take the Inclosed Oath. It is reported that there is Some Intention of Sending down a force this way to Attack West Florida you will no doubt think with me that it will be necessary to know what Sort of People come to Settle among you and the Indians who are your principal defence should be well Supported.

I have no doubt of your being able to Command the Service of the Indians when they are provided. The Young men I know will be ready at the first word but to employ them before Something Effectual can be done may be attended with bad Consequences

If there was provision made & people Authorized to Act for Government, they might be very usefull in Apprehending dissaffected persons that may be found tampering with the Indians some of them constantly about us might be found necessary as we are informed that a Price is Set on [p.219] Mr Camerons head and Three Men were actually fitted out with an Intention to earn the Bribe. The Indians are very watchfull, Alarmed at every Report

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of a Gun and ready to Kill every Strange White Man they see if permitted. There is one Capt. Grant here who came in our Company from the Chickasaws, He was an Officer in the Virginia Regiment when you went from this Nation to Virginia on your Escape with the little Carpenter, He is Active & Resolute and very well Known to the Indians and all the white People here & in our Neighbourhood, he expresses a great Inclination to take a Part in the Service of Government and I think if Employed by some proper authority might be of great Service, he had thoughts of going into Virginia, but he has heard such Accounts of the Situation of Affairs there that he chooses to Remain here untill he hears of Affairs taking a Turn.

There are three of the People here who were with Mr. Major Robertson, they came here on purpose to enquire if there is any likelihood of their getting any aid from this Quarter if their People could be brought together again, they say that there are Still a great many that would join if they had any prospect of getting Assistance, when they hear of Troops being arrived or of a division in the Settlements. We have advised them if they should Assemble on the Frontiers to bring their People with

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battle & provisions to the Lower Towns and to acquaint Mr. Hamilton & Mr. Cameron with what Steps they take. / Two of them Return to the Set. [illegible] Elements this Day and one of them goes down with Mr. Colbert, who I have sent down to see the Am. munition forwarded from Mobille for this Nation, there are some Cherokees gone with them who are all men of Consequence in this Nation, they are gone to Talk with the Creeks about bringing their Ammunition thro their Nation & to Strengthen their Friendship & alliance with them, they talk of proceeding to see their Father at Pensacola, and I hope whether they see you or not they will be Kindly Received & entertained I hope you will be generous to them, they will think very little of Chactaw Presents or even Creek Presents for they are very gay & People of Taste here.

I brought Mr. Colbert with me from the Chickesaws I thought he might be very usefull to me as he understands the Chicke. saw & Creek Languages, and as much esteem. ed by their Nation & the other Nations who go among them, that I know & am convinced he may be very usefull, I hope he will meet with proper Encouragement and Reward for his Ser. vices, he has had a good deal of trouble from

ill founded Complaints which has injured him in his Circumstances he intends making some Application for Land I hope you will Assist him in this

I thought of going down myself but have determined to hear from you & see the Ammunition arrive before I go. Your Old Friend the Carpenter proposes to accompany me, he drew himself away from the Talks he is ashamed of his Behaviour, he was the Principal Land Jobber. I shall take him with me, I dare say some (p 29) others / will Offer their Services when I go.

The Party of Enemy Indians that attacked and our Boats were afterwards Surprised by our People, they left many of their Arms which were very bright & clean as if just taken out of an Armory the Hatchets & most of the Guns were French. The Indians say that one among them looked like a frenchman. We can very seldom hear any News here, and I think it would be very necessary that we Should be informed as often as possible, altho it may be attended with Expence, We have Sent down One John Bench Express to Mobille that he may return immediately.

I am very Sorry for poor Capt Fordyce I think Affairs in America do not wear a very

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pleasing aspect God grant that things may
change for the Better is the Prayer of

Dear Sir

Yours &c.ª

(signed) Henry Stuart

The Honble. John Stuart Esqr.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / Henry Stuart Esqr. / (N.29.) /
To / John Stuart Esqr. dated / 7 May 1776. from the
Cherokee Nation. / In Mr. Stuarts / of 23d. August
1776 / 7

(A 297)

Toquah 23d May 1776

Mr. Aaron Penson
& the other inhabitants of Nonathuchky

Your letter by Isaac Thomas dated the 12th Instant came to hand a few days ago, with a Letter from the Inhabitants of Watauga and Talk from Mr Brown to the Raven; and immediatly after receiving it we assembled the Indians together, and Communicated the Contents to them in Consequence of which they have Sent you the enclosed talk —

The Notice we gave of the intention of the Indians was intended for the Inhabitants in general without any regard to their Political Principles, for however different Our Opinions may be from any of the Inhabitants we could never have for-given Ourselves if by Omitting to inform you of what Came to Our knowledge of the Intention of the Indians, if we had suffered innocent women and Children to fall a Sacrifice

"What we recommended with Respect to your moving to West Florida is meant only for those who by the present unhappy situation of affairs are forced to Abandon their habitation in the other Provinces or who on account of their prin-ciples / Are affraid to Return to them, for such people (A 297)

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only are by the King's instructions to his Gover. nours of East and West Florida intitled to Grants of Land. We thought that a Certificate from us to any of your people that had an inclination to re. move to that Country might be a means of not only obtaining immediat grants for them but of pro. curing the Assistance of Government as in their pre. sent distressed situation they can be but badly provided with necessaries to make a new Settlement.

The man who came in here with Thomas seems to have no inclination to remove to West Florida and if all the Rest of your people should be of his mind he can inform you of the in. dulgence that the Indians have given you through our intercession from the Character that Captain Guest who has been all over West Florida and from (has)
what we know of that Country, we venture to Re. commend it to you as a very fit Country for poor people; And if any of your people should think of going down thither by Water the Indians have
(page 99) promised to let them pass unmolested, or if they should want any provisions they have promised to barter them for any Articles that your people can Spare But if they should have an inclination to drive down their Stocks as far as the Mushell Shoals and to cross over you may acquaint us by the bearer,

we think that they will be in no danger of receiving any injury from the Cherokees, we applied to them for a party to conduct your people so far to which they do not seem inclinable —

It will give us great pleasure to have it in Our power to render you any service, but the Indians are determined that the people that are settled in their Lands shall remove and we can have no hopes of obtaining any promises for the safety of any persons that may be hardy enough to remain in the Land after the time limited, and should they make any promises there can be but very little dependence put on them such is the present Disposition of the Young [P.300] fellows throughout the Nation towards the inhabitants of the New Settlements. We wish you well & hope you will believe us

Your sincere friends

Signed { Henry Stuart
Alexr Cameron

Endorsed Copy of a Letter / from / Messrs Henry Stuart / & / Alexr Cameron / to / Mr. Aron Penson / dated Toquah / 23 May 1776 / In Mr Stuarts of the / 23d August 1776. / — 9. —

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Extracts of H Stuart & Alexr. Camerons to John [p.301]
Carter & The other inhabitants of Watauga

Joqua 23 May 1776

We do not apprehend the dispute betwixt Great Brittain and the Provinces, influences the Indians in the least in their behaviour to the people who are settled on their Lands. The discontent of the young fellows is not at all new although the effect of it has not hitherto appeard. It was like to have made bad blood among themselves; but Now they seem unanimously resolved to recover their lands. Those of Watauga & Nonatluchky seem to engross their attention most. They mentioned them only to us in their Talks. We do not know if they have any View to the other settlements on this side the Boundary line, but they say that they have no intention of hurting or Molesting any any (sic) of the inhabitants on the other side the line, all that they want (they say) is their land & that they are determined to have —

There were some Indians here lately from the Lower Towns who had been at Fort Charlot at the congress with Commissioners from Virginia & Carolina they informed us that they were assured by the Commissioners that the Congress intended to order the people off who

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were settled on their lands without loss of time

[p 302] Endorsed Extracts of Henry Stuart / & Alexander Cameron / Letter to John Carter / & the Other inhabitants of / Watauga 23d May 1776 / In Mr Stuarts of / 23d August 1776. / 10.

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Little Tallassie 7th July 1776 [p. 242]

Sir

This afternoon I received your letter of the 2d Ulto from Saint Augustine and hope this will find you safe at Pensacola notwithstanding the ut-most assiduity of your Enemies to prevent You as I understand Mr Mc Kennon is not with you at present I have thought proper to send Mr Bethune to You who will be of great Service to you at Pen-sacola and at present have little to do for him here,

I have Ernistisigus and Several Other head-men now here and have communicated the contents of your letter to them, with which they seem well Satisfied and will be ready to attend You whenever you desire them, some of the headmen (Viz the Handsome fellow, Beaver Tooth King Chavalley War-riors and some others, in All not exceeding two hun-dred) went to a meeting at Augusta, there held by George Galphin and other Commissioners Since their return they have thrown the Nation into great Confusion by the Talks received at Augusta but they are now pritty well reconciled again and begin to Complain much against the Vir-ginians as they Call all those people now in Rebellion, yet they do not seem hearty in joining against them but would much rather wish to enjoy [p. 243]

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the Advantages of a Neutrality by being paid from both parties. yet I believe after they been with you and heard your talks they will agree to whatever you desire them provided that Liquor can be prevented bringing among them, The Com. missioners thought to thro the nation into a flame by supplying the party that went down so plenti. fully with Rum, the Cowetas alone had Ninety or One hundred Kegs, and while it lasted were Constantly Drunk and threatning to kill their Traders, since they are become Sober again they behave well but the large quantities brought daily from Pensacola and Mobile Keep us in a Continu. al ferment in this place it must either be speedi. ly prevented otherwise nothing can be expected from this Quarter, nor is any person safe among them, I do not mean a totall Stop but such mentioned in last regulation and none Suffered to be sold to Indians in the Settlements.

I have not seen any writen Copy of the Talks delivered at Augusta to the Indians, but sent Mr Charles Stuart as much of it as Lacuffe (who I sent to Augusta for that purpose) could remember they say that they do not want the Indians to assist on either side at Same time their president Mr Bullock sent a Talk into the

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lower Creeks desireing them down to Savannah to
assist them, this talk was to / Have come up by [p.326]
a Son of Mr Bryans, a Messrs. Gibons and Maurbury
and some others however they altered their intentions
and sent it up by the Blue Salt to Timothy Bar-
nard and John Miller Traders in the Eutchie Town,
to read to the Indians, they were affraid to give it
out to the Indians as I was at that time in the
lower Creeks, and denyed to me their having Recd
any such talks, however I was well assured that
they had it, and on Mr Barnards return from
Pensacola he acknowledged his having received such
a Talk, and promised to send it to me, but he
now pretends that it was destroyed, and has sent
me the inclosed being all that he says he re-
members of the Talk. Young George Galphin came
up to the Nation in May on purpose to Commu-
nicate every intelligence he could obtain to his father,
he went a few days ago for Georgia ~ The Tallassie
King of Hlaycatskey came here three days ago he
mentioned his Intention of taking a party against
the Settlements of Georgia to take Satisfaction for
his wifes Son that was killed there by some of
the Scouting partys. the Chavneley Warrior demanded
Satisfaction when at Augusta which Mr Galphin pro-
mised should be done and desired them to send

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two Men to Ninety Six to see a man executed for. Satisfaction this they agreed to and sent two Men but the man they went to see put to death was for ye murder of his wife, which has much enraged the Indians, they have lately killed One Man coming from Georgia at Ocmulgey it was said a half breed [P 226] fellow belonging / To the Cowetas committed this murder but do not know who the white Man was. I advised Tallassie King not to go at this time to the Settlements but wait patiently until he either saw or heard from you which he has promised me to do, and went off yesterday very well Satisfied, he says that there is only two men that pays any attention to Mr Galphins Talks, Viz Sampayaffie and Escochabee and them he thinks may soon be gained— the Blue Salt got about Sixty of the Cussataw Indians to agree to go with him to Savannah on hearing of which I got Ernestisigee and a party to agree to go to Oconee in Order to call back these fellows and to watch the motions of the Rebels and protect any persons that might be chase to come this way, before the day appointed for the parties Setting out arrived, the Handsome fellow came in from Augusta and called a meeting of the upper Creeks in Order to give out the talks he had heard at Augusta, this prevented most of the people that intended going

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so that only twelve men accompanyed Emistisigoes and Mr Brown to the Lower towns, and as these people had some of their people in the Settlements they did everything in their power to prevent Emistisigoes proceeding — I was informed of the Intentions of the Cowetas going to take revenge for the man they had lost, and wrote immediatly for Emistisigoe and his party to return for fear of involving him and his party in ruin in case the Cowetaws Should fall on the Settlements so that / They have returned, and will wait until (p.327)
further Orders — I have employed Joseph Cornwall as Interpreter ever since the 20th of may which I hope will meet with your approbation he has been very usefull in keeping the Indians from going to Georgia, and went with Mr Brown and the party that was with him, there is still Occasion for his Services and I think he ought to be Continued if agreeable to You, to prevent the Commissioners employing him, as they had likely to have done last fall —

10th As Mr Brown has no bullets along with his powder I have at his request sent Nine packhorses for 1400 weight of bullets as he informs me that you promised to assist him with some powder and Bullets it is now with great difficulty

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that I can hire horses as the weather is so exc-
-essive warm for Travelling, and the season of
the year being so far advanced that the Traders
will have occasion for all theirs very soon. I re-
-ceived a letter some time ago from Mr Cameron
of the 15th Ults acquainting me of a party of Shawa-
-nees Delawars and Mohawks were come into y^e
Cherokee Nation with talks from their Nations to the
(p.220) Cherokees and were to proceed soon for this, / But
three Cherokees, and Two Traders who came hither yes-
-terday from Tellequo, inform me that these Indians
are gone back for their own Nations and have sent
in their Talks and belt of wampum by some Chero-
-kees who are now at the great Oak-Chroys and in-
-tend staying there untill they can have a meet-
-ing of the Chiefs of this Nation and receive an
Answer from them I expect Mr Henry Stuart every
hour who will be able to give you the particu-
-lars of the Talks delivered by the Northward In-
-dians in the Cherokee Nation

I observe what you mention in Respect of
sending Supplys thro' this nation for the assis-
-tance of the Back Settlers, if horses can be purchas-
-ed here, I think the Safest way to carry it will
be to send horses either to the mouth of Escambia
on this side Pensacola or as far up Escambia as a

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Vessell can come, and so proceed by the great Tallassie Town the Straight Road to the Chata Towns and from thence either to the Town or middle Settlements of the Chenokees escorted by a Strong guard from the upper Creeks as I cannot say much in favour of the Cowetas it is impossible for Boats to come up this River in the fall of the year as the River at that Season is generally very low and there is several Shoals in it which reach quite a Cross. I shall enquire what horses can be purchased and / Let you Know as soon as possi- (p. 329)
-ble. althó it will be necessary to know the mode of payment as they must be purchased of Traders, the In-dians not having any to Spare and am much afraid that very few can be got of Traders in this Nation..

I have our Red friends here constantly from Sun rise to midnight and often all night alleging as that I am obliged to send by Mr. Bethune for more goods to supply them until you can send for them, I am greatly at a loss for provisions for them and the different people daily passing on business to and thro the Nation and as several Beefs will be wanted to supply the peo-ple that may be employed to convey the Supplys thro this Nation should be glad that you could send me money to purchase Some of the different

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hard Breads in the Lower Creeks as they can be much easier purchased for money than goods Mr Bethune will acquaint you with the bad behaviour of some of the Traders in this nation West Florida and of the absolute necessity of taking proper Steps with them otherwise the Service in this place must be totally ruined, a few days ago (p.330) A Letter from the Kings Attorney to a James Waugh in this Nation was put into my hands by which I see there has been a correspondence carried on by these men of a very hurtfull nature to this Department that and Several other Letters from Pensacola I hope I shall have the pleasure of Shewing to you soon I have the Honor to be with the greatest respect

Sir

Your most Obedt
humble Servant
(Signed) David Taitt

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from / David Taitt / To / John Stuart Esquire / dated Little Tallassie the / 7th July 1776 / In Mr Elliotts of / 23d August 1776. / 16

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Togueh 9th July 1776 [p.331]

Sir

Agreeable to Your instructions I kept the Indians of this Settlement in good humour untill the Arrival of Mr Henry Stuart and his party, Commanded by the Dragging Canoe, the Canoe no sooner arrived here, than he began to talk of the Settlements formid on Wataga and Nonathluchby by the white people, and to prevent Indian Ravages upon the Inhabitants we obtained liberty from the Chiefs to write to the people to remove in peace.— This was repeated a Second time when Our messenger who was sent by the earnest Request of the white people inhabiting the land was seized and kept in Confinement for the Space of 15 days, which irritated the Indians beyond measure; and in the mean time, a Party of 15 men of different Northern Indian Tribes, came in here to Solicit the Assistance of the Cherokees, Representing to them, the Encroachments of the white people; and the Continual Steps taken by them to enslave them, and what was Still more provoking if possible that the white people [p.332] Crossed into their Towns last Winter, Surprised Colonel Gary Johnston their Superintendant and took him prisoner [and] sett him into a Hogshead of Boiling Tar where he expired in a few minutes; all these matters Still

added more fewel to their resentment; and all our Pheloricke could no longer dissuade them from tak-
-ing up the Hatchet. This relation Sir is Mathew's re-
-dious, and as Mr. Henry Stuart can relate the whole, I shall beg leave to refer you to him for the particulars

I send you my Account from 1st Janry 1775 to 31st December following, to be presented to You for Payment which I hope Sir you will honor, I shall likewise send my Accompt from 1st January 1776 to 30th June last, it is very probable Sir that you will think my Accompt very high, but when you will consider the Rewards offered for my life and the daily at-
-tempts made to lessen my Influence with the In-
-dians, I hope you will approve of my hiring men to make head against any party, that might be sent into the Nation with a View to apprehend me, as well as to apprehend any other person who should oppose or thwart my Authority this Sir with the daily meetings of the Indians at my house; and the provisions furnished for them, with the few presents bought from the Traders at an enormous price has Augmented my Expences to a large Sum but as the present times made this Necessary, I hope Sir you will approve of and not Scruple to pay every part of it —

[P 333]

/By Mr Colbert I sent to you for some money

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which I shall be glad to receive — The Indians ex-
pect that you will furnish them while Nation with
goods and Ammunition, as they have it not in their
power, to hunt or Supply themselves; I think that this
Charge is incumbent on you at this time of Confusion —
I could have raised a Company of men some time ago,
which I think I could employ to great advantage to
Government, but I was affraid to take such a Step with-
out Orders, Rangers have Commonly £20 Currency p.
Month — Captain William Grant who Commanded a
Company in the Virginia Regiment last War has been
here some time; The Indians are well acquainted with
him as a Great Warrior — He is also looked upon in the
same light by all the Virginians, He would willing-
ly serve against the Rebels and would endeavour to
Raise a Regiment or even a Company if he had en-
couragement I hope if he has not already been provided
for by your Brothers Recommendation of him to you, that
you will endeavour to procure him a Commission, I
refer you to your Brother on this head also, and for the
present Beg leave to Conclude most respectfully

Sir

Your most Obliged most Obedt
& humble Servant
(Signed) Alexr Cameron

The Honble John Stuart Esq.

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Pensacola 25th. August 1776.

As the Cherokees have gone against the back Settlements of Carolina & Virginia, I think it incumbent upon me to give you a detail of my Transactions and of Mr Cameron's, and of the Occurrences in their Nation while I was among them.

About two days after my Arrival in West Florida with the Ammunition which I brought from St Augustine to supply the Cherokee & Creek Nations; I was informed of the Arrival of Ishincanacina, a Leader of the Cherokees at Mobille. I thought this a very fortunate Circumstance, as we had not heard from their Nation for many Months, and as we were at that time entirely Ignorant of the Situation of Affairs among them. I immediately Set out for Mobille that I might have some Conversation with him, and I found on my Arrival that his only Business was to enquire into the Cause of the present Disorders in the Colonies and the Reason why their Supplies of Ammunition & goods (which were formerly brought from Georgia and Carolina) were Stopt; He told me that their Nation was under very great Apprehensions & uneasiness, and complained much of the Encroachments of the Virginians & Inhabitants of North Carolina he said that they were almost surround.

-ed by the White people, that they had but a
Small spot of ground left for them to stand up-
-on and that it seemed to be the Intention of the
[p336] White people to destroy them from being a People.

I endeavoured to explain to him as well as
I I could, the Situation of Affairs in the Provinces and
the Nature of their quarrel with Great Britain. I
told him that you considered the distress that his
Nation must have been reduced to, by their Trade
having been Stopt, & that you had sent me with
a Supply of Ammunition to enable them to Hunt
and to provide for their Families & to defend them
from their Enemies. I told him that I was sorry
for the Encroachments that were made on their
Lands by the Virginians, but that they were made
contrary to the Kings Order, That Affairs were in
such a Situation at this time that they seemed
to trample on his Authority, and that we could not
do any thing with them, but we hoped things would
not continue long so. I put him in mind that they
themselves were to Blame for making Private Bar-
-gains for their Lands contrary to all the Talks
that they had received from You and Mr Cameron
that they had frequently been told not to suffer any
Person to Settle nor even to Hunt beyond the Boun-
-dary Line, which was Run by Mr Cameron, to

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divide them from the White People, and to pre-
-vent any future Disorder. that they had often
been told, that when they found any People
Hunting or Settling beyond the line that they
would never be found fault with if they took
away their Effects & burnt their Houses. He
made Answer that he had no hand in making
their Bargains / but blamed some of their Old (R 337)
Men who he said were too Old to Hunt and who
by their Poverty had been induced to Sell their
Land, but that for His Part he had a great many
Young fellows that would support him and that
they were determined to have those Land.

I told him that I was to proceed with the
Ammunition to their Nation and that I should
then see how Matters were, but I could Say no-
-thing more at present. My first Intention was to
have proceeded with the Ammunition through the
Creek Nation to the Cherokees, I dispatched a Mes-
-senger to Mr Gaitt in the Creeks and wrote him
to order down Horses to Carry the Supplies for both
Nations; my Letters were returned to me about Twenty
days after I sent them away. the Rivers were so
high that the Messenger could not proceed; I under-
-stood, that there were then Parties of Shawanese out
against the Creeks and I thought that carrying

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vent any future Disorder. that they had Often
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days after I sent them away. the Rivers were so
high that the Messenger could not proceed; I under-
stood, that there were then Parties of Cherokees out
against the Creeks and I thought that carrying

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Ammunition at this time to the Creeks was attended with some danger. I therefore ordered round the Ammunition for the Cherokees to Mobille in order to proceed thro the Chickesaws. The Winds were contrary and the Sloop with the Ammunition was so long coming round that I thought best for fear of the bad consequence of too long delays to proceed with Thirty Horse Load of Ammunition which I borrowed at Mobille. I had a very tedious Journey to the Tenassy River owing to the Badness of the weather, but I found Chinicana-cina with about Eighty Indians waiting for me with greater Patience than I could have expected I met at the Tenassy some White People who had come down the River in order to Settle on the Mississippi. I found that the Indians had been making some Enquiries at those People about the Settlers on Watoga beyond the Boundary line & in other Places in their Neighbourhood, they told them that they seemed to Increase fast and that they talked of Building or had already built a Fort on the Cherokee Land at the Mouth of Watoga River. We proceeded on our Voyage up the Tenassy, Capt. Stuart accompanied me, he was very well acquainted with the New Settlements and informed me that the Settlers were very numerous. I found

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that the Indians constantly discoursed about them and frequently took an Opportunity of mentioning them to me and their firm Resolution of driving them Off. I asked them how long the White People had been settled there they told me about Seven Years. I said they might easily have been prevented in the Beginning, but now their attempting to drive them off might be attended with very bad Consequences that altho I wished to see those people off their Land, I did not wish to see Blood Spilt, that there were many Poor people among them who thought that they lived on lands fairly Purchased & I should be very sorry if they were hurt, that when they came to Reason their Mistakes, that they would Remove, that I would write to them as soon as I arrived in the Nation and encourage them to go down the Mississippi and that I thought they would Pay regard to my Letter. I told him that we had but a bad Interpreter & that we could not understand one another but that when I got to the Nation & could see / Mr Cameron, that I should be able to talk [p.339] to him. He told me he would wait untill I had wrote & if they did not then Remove that he would acquaint the Old Warriors of his Intentions if they approved of them it was well, if not the

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& the Young Warriors would follow their own way We met with several Boats on our Passage with People from Holstons River bound to the Natchez The People in some of the Boats told in Presence of the Indians that the new Settlers talkd of Settling quite down to the Mouth of Broad River, and that if they met with any Opposition from them, that they would drive them from their Towns. We met with some Indians who acquaint.ed us, that they had received some Insulting Messages from the People of Watoga and that they had threatened to put Mr Cameron to Death, That they had had a Talk from some Men at Fort Charlotte inviting them down, That they are desired in that Message to be good Friends to the Inhabitants of Watoga, and to leave a Road to Pass & repass to their Country from Virginia & desired that they would Pay no Regard to any Talks they should receive from the Superintendant or Mr Cameron. All these pieces of Intelligence seem.ed to Spurr on Chinicanacina & his Party who seemed already firmly bent on doing mischief, Mes.sengers were dispatched by him at different times to the Nation with Talks to such People of his Nation as he thought would most readily concurr with him in his designs, so that by the time

that we arrived in the Nation nothing was talk
ed of but War, to the no Small uneasiness and
discontent of the most thinking & sensible Part
of the Nation; we found that one Scalp had
been already brought into the Great Island &
that a small Party was sitting out from the
same Town which we found means to prevent

A few days after my arrival in the Na-
tion I assembled the Headmen from the dif-
ferent Parts of the Nation. I acquainted them
that I had brought them a Small supply of
Ammunition to relieve their present necessitys and
to enable them to hunt & to supply their fami-
lies, that the King had ordered that while they
continued firm to him & minded the Talks that
Gov. McGillivray gave them that they should
never be suffered to want. That all the Pathes
had shut up the Communication with Georgia
& Carolina that there were other Pathes that would
be Open for their Trade as long as they behaved
well, That since the King was so mindfull of
them that he expected if he should ask their
help in bringing his Obstinate Children to Rea-
son that they will be ready to give it. I like-
wise told them that we had Information that
there were Persons hired to take away Mr Cameron's

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(p. 3911) life; and that the Rebells had threatened to send a Party of Men into the Nation to take away the Kings Friends and that I hop'd they would keep a good look out and take Care to prevent them. I told them that it gave me pleasure to hear from Mr. Cameron that very few of their Nation had been prevailed on to go to Fort Charlotte & that I hoped they that went would Pay little Regard to what they should hear from those pretended Headmen sent from the Rebells. I told them that my Stay among them would not be long, that I had only brought a Small Part of the Ammunition which was intended for them and that it was too little to divide among the different Parts of the Nation; that we had been unfortunate & lost some of what I brought from Mobille on the Passage, but that Mr. Colbert would be sent away in Two days to bring some more and that I would soon set out myself. Mr Cameron who had lived so long among them (till he had almost become one of themselves) would be always with them to advise them to whatever was for their good; I hoped they would always listen to him; If they had done so constantly there would not be that uneasiness in their Nation which I was very Sorry to find among their Young People, & which

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I wished might not be productive of bad Con-
sequences to their Nation; that You had heard
of them making Bargains for their Land & that
it gave you great uneasiness. I told them that I
understood that a Party was actually preparing (p.201)
to go out to War from the Great Island, That I
hoped they would Stop them from taking a Step
that would doubtlessly involve their Nation in Ruin
that there were many poor ignorant People on
these Lands, who were made to believe that the
Lands were legally purchased, & that they thought
the Cherokees had no Objection to their Settling
there. That I had promised to write to them
provided it was agreeable to the Inhabts, and would
make them such Offers, and State Matters in
such a manner to them, as I did not doubt would
induce many if not all of them to Remove. That
if they should Attack those people that they them-
selves had been the means of bringing on their
Land they would draw on themselves the Resent-
ment of every Body. In answer the Indians con-
gratulated me on my safe Arrival in their Na-
tion and on your Escape from your Enemies
who they said had forced you from your House
into the Sea That you had been for a while
invisible to them but that now you have appeared

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again at Augustine as if you had risen from
under the Waves. That you had Considered
the distress of your Children & taken Pity on
them, that they were very thankfull & would
never forget your Talks, but would be firm to
the King and would protect his people & look
upon them as their own, That if any Attempts
were made by the Rebells to take Mr Cameron
or any of the Kings People out of the Nation they
[illegible]would defend them with their lives, and the Re-
bells must stand to the Consequence of their mak-
ing such an Attempt. They said they did not like
to Spill the Blood of the White people but if they
attempted to carry away their People who lived among
them, they could not avoid it. They said some of
the People from the Valley and a few from the Lower
Towns had been Prevailed on to go to the Congress at
Fort Charlotte, that their Wants & the Hopes of Receiv-
ing presents & not any regard to the Talks they should
Receive, had induced them to go, & that they re-
turned disappointed, and were become the Jest
of the Nation. They gave a String of Beads which
they Hoped I would deliver. They then gave another
& told me that you had been misinformed with
regard to their giving away the Lands of Watoga
& Nonatluchky (They took care to avoid saying

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anything of Hendersons Purchase) They said that when Mr Cameron Ran the line of Virginia there were people who had Selt themselves down on this Side the Boundary Line, that they were ordered to Remove off but they begg'd as their Crops were then on the Ground that they might be allowed to reap them, & that they would certainly remove the Spring following, some of them went away but others & more people came in their Room, they at last brought Goods & prevailed on Some of their People to give leases, that many of them were against their Staying on the Land, But that the People who brought the Goods told them, that they would stay on the Land whether they took the Goods or not & (P. 344)
now that the Time is expired which they had to Stay on the Land they pretend that they pur-
-chased it. They begged that Mr Cameron & I would write to them & Send this Talk and de-
-sire them to Remove immediately and prevent further Trouble. Some of the Traders who were pre-
-sent at these Transactions affirm this to be a true State of the Case, and that they believe that under a Pretence of taking Leases & Receipts for Rent they had got deeds Signed. We immediate-
-ly dispatched one Isaac Thomas with the inclos-
-ed Letter and this Talk to the Inhabitants of

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Waloga & Nonatlucchiky.— He returned to us in Ten days & brought us the inclosed Letter signed John Carter, & one signed Aaron Pinson in the name of the Inhabitants of Nonatluchiky expressing their gratitude to us for writing to them & acquainting them with the Intentions of the Indians, their Letter is full of Professions of Loyalty & they tell us that they have no Intention of Continuing on the Lands but untill Times alter that they may Return to the Provinces from whence they fled to avoid the present Troubles & they intreat us to point out any Place that they may Retire to for a little Time. Isaac Thomas informed us that our Letter had been read before all the Inhabitants but that he was told by one of them, that one Jessy Benton was employed by Carter to transcribe our Letter which was very different from the Original & that it was sent [illegible] to one of the / Committees in Virginia, this he declared on Oath. Thomas informed us afterwards that Aaron Pinam did not sign the Letter, but that his name was affixed to it by the desire of one Patrick Brown who sent in a Talk to the Raven in the same Hand writing, expressing his Surprize that he should deny his Claim to the Lands on which he was Settled, the Boundaries of which he & the Carpenter had marked, and enumerated the different

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Articles he had given in Payment. There was a Man sent with Thomas who declared that all the People who were Settled there had paid Brown for the Lands they possessed, that he was fully paid for all the Goods, that he had paid the Indians & that they claimed no Right to the Land but only entreated that if they insisted on their removing from thence immediately, that some place might be pointed out for them to Retreat to until things should take a Turn in the Settlements; He named the Head of Nonatheletuy River at the Bottom of the Iron Mountains which the Indians readily agreed to. The Indians agreed to return an Answer to Mr Browns Talk & to John Lawrens accompanied with a String of white Beads. They said they remmembered they had given them leave to Set down on their Lands for a certain Time but that the Time was now elapsed, but they insisted that they never Sold any Land. The Goods they remmembered very well to have received but they were Received as a Payment for the Deer & Buffaloe they had destroyed. For the Horses, they had Built on their Hunting Grounds, / and the [p.344]
Fields they had Planted, and for the Grass that their Cattle & Horses had Eat; That they had drove away all their Deer & Buffaloe, and that now they

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were Obliged to go a great Way to look for Victuals for their Families. They said they sent once more in a friendly manner to the people Settled on their Lands to desire them to Remove and they Hoped they would Comply with their Request, as they said they had no Inclination to do them any Injury and as the time first fixed for their Departure was rather Short they gave them Twenty days longer.

The People of Watoga Requested that Isaac Thomas might be sent back with the Indians answer to them. We sent for Thomas and desired he would go to the new Settlements again, with our second Letter & the Talk from the Indians. He said if the Indians desired it he would go, but that they must furnish Him with a Guard, for that he had been well informed that a Settler Fellow named the Little Deer had lain in wait to take away his life, when he last returned but that he had been Surprised by some of the Toquah People who had been out a Hunting and was disappointed in Executing his design. The Truth of this report was Confirmed by some Indians who were present. The Great Warrior offered his Service to Escort Thomas with a Party to Broad River & he was fully determined if he found

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the Little Deer on any such design to put him to death. Sixteen Days was the time assigned for Thomas's Return. At this time things looked favourable, and we had some hopes that the Indians might be prevented from falling on the New Settlements. I must now return to give an Account of Occurrences & of our Transactions before Thomas's first Return to the Time fixed for his Second Return. [p. 367]

Mr Cameron & I were of Opinion that it was necessary to have a full Supply of Ammunition & some Presents to keep the Indians in good Temper and to dispose them to Pay Attention to what we might find necessary to Recommend to them, for he was of Opinion that notwithstanding the very great Pains he had been at to attach them to His Majestys Interest, and all their Professions of Friendship, that if they had been properly Supplied with Presents & Ammunition by the Rebells they might have been brought away from us. Mr Wilkinson Commissary for the Rebells among the Cherokees, we found was furnished with plenty of Provisions & Rum to entertain the Indians & that he had purchased all the Goods he could to make presents & that by these Means he had gained a good deal on the People of the

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Lower Towns, some of the People of the Valley were Kept in the Interest of the Rebells by pres-sents which the People of Augusta Continued to send them. Therefore that we might have it in our Power to Counteract the designs of the Enemies of Government, We sent Mr Coalbert to Pen-
[p. 348] sacola with Letters for you, and ordered a Supply of Goods and Ammunition. We at this time were Constantly Informed of the Intentions of the Rebells to get all the Friends of Government out of the Nation & that a Reward was Offered for Mr. Cameron & that some Villains about Broad River had undertaken to Assassinate him. We were informed that one Preston Hampton a Trader who resided in the Valley & who had been very active in Prevailing on the Indians to go down to Fort Charlotte; had just returned from the Settlements with his Brother & Some others, that they had threatened Several Traders who were friends to Government, & that they had told the Indians that there would Soon be a Suf-ficient Body of men from the Settlements to take all the Kings Friends in the Nation That they made Interest with the Indians to permit them to Pass over the Hills to take Mr. Cameron Prisoner, that they wore the uniforms of the Rebells & Deer

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Trails on their Heels in defiance of Mr. Cameron.

"We thought proper to Assemble all the White People in the Nation & to Tender to them the Oath of Allegiance. The White People in the Over-hills took it very readily & Fifteen of them with Willanawaw & three other Indians Set out with Mr. Cameron next day for the Valley to ap-prehend the Hamptons, they seized them after a little Resistance & brought them Prisoners to Toquah in Spite of some Threats uttered by Do-harty's half breed Sons and a Party which [illegible] they had made who were inclinable to release them. The Prisoners were put into the Hands of a Constable with an Intention to have been sent to Pensacola. Preston Hampton the Principal Of-fender who had been a Deserter from the 17th Regi-ment found means by the Connivance of some White Man in the Nation to make his escape. About Twenty Five days after he was taken. One of the Traders Hirelings dropped an Expres-sion which caused some Suspicion against him of having let Hampton Escape and fear of be-ing called on and of being exposed to the Resent-ment of the Indians made him run away.

One Capt York & some others of the Loyal Inhabitants of the Back Settlements of Carolina paid

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us visits to know if there were hopes of Assis-
tance coming to them through the Cherokees from
St. Augustine or Pensacola, They complained much
of the distressed Situation to which the Friends
of Government were already reduced & said that
they were Apprehensive that the Rebells would
use means to prevent them doing anything in
favour of Government hereafter if they were not
soon Supported. That the friends of Government
were very numerous but wanted Arms & Ammu-
-nition, that the Rebells were building Forts &
would they imagined deprive them of Provision
as well as Arms.

Some people who had been at Augusta
informed us that one Spoons a Trader in the
[P 350] Valley and / who from Consciousness of bad Beha-
-viour in the Nation, had Run away, when Mr.
Cameron went to apprehend Hampton and endeav-
-oured to exasperate the people of Georgia against
the Kings Friends in the Cherokees. They brought
us Intelligence that there was to be a muster in a few days
at Fort Dartmouth &, Fort Charlotte, & that a large draught
was to be made to come into the Nations & that the Hamp-
-tons Friends in the Valley were to Assist & Pilot them
over the Mountains to apprehend Mr. Cameron & every
other Friend of Government. It was reported at

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Augusta that Mr Walker intended to come into the Overhills from Virginia with about 800 or 900 Men. He had told the Indians that he did not intend to trouble himself much about Cameron for he proposed Paying him a Visit. This made the Other Report gain greater credit. The Indians were all very Inquisitive to Know what Intelligence we received from the Settlements, which we always took care to Communicate with that degree of Caution that we thought it deserved. About the time that we were preparing to send Thomas a Second time to Watoga Four Young Fellows set out in a private manner from the Great Island, and on the Road from Hendersons Purchase waylaid some Passengers and brought in a Scalp, they brought in some Letters which were found in the Persons Pocket who was Killed. They brought them to us, They proved to be [p. 351] from some poor Industrious people from North Carolina who had Settled with a few Cattle on Henderson's Purchase, encouraging their Friends to come to Settle in that new Country.

The Principal Indians did not at all approve of the Behaviour of the Young Fellows of the Islands venturing out without the Consent of the Nation. They met on purpose to Testify to

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res their Displeasure. The Sixteen days appointed for Thomas's & the Indians return were now fully expired, but no Accounts of either. The Indians now began to be uneasy, they allowed Two days more at the End of which if they did not return they should conclude that some unlucky accident had befallen their people, & they would send out to look for them. Before the two days were fully expired the Indians Returned they had waited at a Place appointed on the other side of Broad River the full time they had promised but saw no likelyhood of Thomas's Return. The Young Fellows began now to be impatient & to be apprehensive that an army was preparing to come against them While they were in this Turn of mind a Deputation of 14 Indians with a Cherokee fellow as Interpreter, arrived from the Northern Nations, they consisted of some from the Six Confederate Nations & from the Mohawks, Ottawas, Nanticas, Shawnese & Delawares. We were [P.382] Sent for to Chote, the day that they made their Entrance they came in all black. They gave an Account of their Journey & the News, which Served sufficiently to intimate their Errand. They said they had been Seventy Days on their Journey, that when they attempted to Pass through

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that Country from Pittsburgh to their Nation (which but very lately used to be the Shawnese & Delawares Hunting grounds, where they used to see nothing but Deer Bear & Buffaloes, they found the Country thickly Inhabited and the People all in Arms. That at Pittsburgh there were 2000 Men Assembled, that at a Fort on Cedar River which falls into the Ohio, there were 1500 Men assembled, That at a Fort on Louisa River there were 1000. That on Green River beyond Cumberland Mountain there were 1000 men, They laid down Several other Forts where they said there were Bodys of Men assembled, their Salt Springs & their Buffaloe Grounds they said had numbers of Inhabitants & Fortified Places round them: That they were obliged to go down a great Way on the Other Side of the Ohio and to take a Round of near 300 Miles to avoid being discovered, that between Cumberland Mountain & the Cherokee Nation where the Road goes from the Settlements on the Ohio to Holstein's River they discovered Fresh Tracts of a Great Body of People with Horses & Cattle. The Moshawks said that early in the Spring a Body of the White People inhabiting the Country near them, had come in to one of their Towns & surprised their People [p.553]

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and killed many of them that they took Sir William Johnsons Son Prisoner & put him to Death in a cruel manner, that there were two Attempts made afterwards and that the Indians gave them Battle & defeated them with a very great Slaughter. They said that they had got all the Northern Tribes to Assist them to take Satisfaction & that the French have supplied them with a great Quantity of Ammunition & Arms and Provisions & have promised to Support them That they told them that the Kings Troops would soon fall on their Enemies towards the Sea and if they united and fell on them on this Side they would find them nothing That now all Nations of Indians were at peace with one another, that they had sent Messengers to the Outtaouhe to the Tribes there to Secure their Friendship & that they would not trouble the Cherokees any more. This they said was all they had to Say now, which they might depend was all truth, they appointed the 10th Day from the Day of their Arrival for their grand Talk, when they Hoped there would be people from the different Parts of the Nation. After this day every Young Fellows face in the Overhill Towns appeard Blacked & nothing was now talked of but War the people of Settico & the Island were busily employed in

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preparing Spears Clubs & Scalping Knives. We still
continued to dissuade them from these Intentions
of attacking the Settlements, by representing to them
the dangerous Consequences that were likely to fol-
low to their Nation. the danger of making an in-
discriminate Attack & the Impossibility of / their be- (p. 356)
ing able without a Body of white People to join them
to make any distinction, That it would be, the means
of drawing on them the Kings Displeasure and of unit-
ing all Parties against them. We told them that our
Express might have been detained by Sickness or some
Accident & that we did not yet despair of hearing that
the People were Removed off their Land. All the Prin-
cipal Chiefs Assented very readily to every thing but
the Young Warriors became impatient, they said that
it had been Better if they had Attacked the people
at once without our having wrote to them, that by
this time they might have had the People removed
from their Lands, that our Letters Served only to
put the Settlers on their guard and to make them
prepare to Come against them. That we had told
them to Assist the King & that now when there
was a probability of an Army coming against their
Towns we endeavoured to Keep them back. That
we had made a Sham of taking a Prisoner & that
we had suffered him to Escape that for their Parts

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they did not believe the White People were at War altho they pretended so, that since Hampton is Escape one of the People who lived among them had gone away & that they were convinced it was with no other Intention but to give Intelli-gence to their Enemies of what passed in the Nation They desired that there might be no more Letters wrote nor any of the people Suffered to leave the Nation.

We told them that when we wrote to the People of Watoga &c We did it with a View / of get-ting them to Remove without Trouble to their Na-tion & that it was done with their Approbation & consent. That we did not yet know but our Letters might have the desired Effect, that altho we did not approve of their going rashly into Measures that might involve them & others in the most dissagree-able Situation. Yet we did not desire them to be Careless but on the Contrary to keep a good look out, that If there was an Army coming against them, they might be discovered in Time enough before they could come near their Towns & that all the World would approve of their Conduct if they Opposed them I told them that I had taken a great deal of Pains to come among them & to bring Ammunition to Relieve their Wants, but

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that some of them had thought proper to put bad Constructions on our Endeavours to Serve them, that such Behaviour was very disagreeable to us. That it was dangerous & troublesome to advise them any Longer &. that they would do best to desire us to go about our Bussiness. The Principal Headmen waited on us & told us that they Hoped we would not Pay any Regard to what any of their Idle Young fellows said, that they always did & always wished to Advise with us on every occasion and as we See things more clearly than they did that they hoped we would freely give our Advice. We then told them that we would give our Opinion on Matters when asked. That they had many wise men among them, that they should Consult them whether it would be best to follow it [illegible] or not. They told us that they were apprehensive that our Messenger had been Stopped & that there was something bad intended against their Nation, that they wished to get the Assistance of the Creeks in case of an Army coming against them & wishid us to write to Mr Taitt to prevail on them to Come that they did not want any of the white People among them to go to any of the Settlements at this time for fear of their giving Intelligence of the Northern Indians being among

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them. They told us that the French who had promised to Assist the Northern Tribes had told them that the Reason of the People of Great-Britain's quarrelling with the people of America was because the Rebells were always making encroachments on the Indians & oppressing them. But that the French & the Kings People would assist each other against the Rebells. They told us that if Thomas did not arrive in a few days they would send out Scouts to look if there were any Preparations making at the New Settle-ments which we approved of. Affairs were in this Situation when we received Intelligence from the lower Towns that the Rebells were forming a Chain of Forts along the line & that the Indians began to be uneasy and apprehensive of some de-sign against them from that Quarter. Captain Cork who had been down to keep his People in the Back Settlements of Carolina in Spirits return-
[p.557] ed to acquaint us that the / Rebells intended as Soon as the Forts should be finished to administer an Oath of Neutrality to the Friends of Govern-ment & that such as refused to Take it were to be put into the Forts. That it was determined to take all white People out of the Nation, that were Obnoxious to them. Mr Wilkinson sent people to

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apprehend York who very narrowly escaped being
taken, he was obligd to leave his Gun Saddle &
other things in the House at Sugar Town where
four armed men were arrived in order to apprehend
him the Indians of Seneca got them back for
him from Mr Wilkinson whom they treated with
a great deal of Contempt. Mr Wilkinson gave the
Indians all the Assurance he could that there was
nothing Intended against them and endeavoured
to Prevail on the Terrapin to go down to Mr Wil-
liamsons that he might be convinced of the Truth
of what he said. The Terrapin refused to go un-
till he should have our Leave. Mr Cameron had
sent his Servants with two Men to bring up
some Cattle which he had purchased about 12
Miles distance from Keowee. The Servants return-
ed in a few days the two Men that went with
him were apprehended by a Party of people sent
after them from the Settlements, he informed us
that Mr Wilkinson was obliged to go away from
Keowee for that the Indians grew very uneasy
but that the Tarrapin had gone down. Davis
a Trader who came from the Lower towns said
that it was currently reported that 900 men were
to be sent into the Nation from Virginia.

We were always obliged to Communicate

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whatever Intelligence we received from time to time to the Indians we were therefore In-vited to Choto that we might tell them the news and Consult about sending out Scouts. We had just received your Letter from Cape Fear & took this op-portunity of telling them what you recommend-ed to us. The grand Talk from the Northern In-dians was to have been in Two days. The Stand-ard of War was Erected. The Flag Staff & Posts of the Town House were painted black & Red. Some Indians who had been out Hunting near the Set-tlements had been surprised by some white men who were employed as Rangers, the Indians said they did not Offer to do them any Injury, but insisted on their going with them to Watoga to hear some Talks from their Headmen to carry to the Nation the Indians were affraid to trust themselves & escaped from them, leaving their Guns & every thing they had at their Camp, they re-turned in the morning & found all their things in the same Situation as they had left them. The Deputies being now assembled from the dif-ferent parts of the Nation & the day being come for hearing the Grand Talk, We went to Choto where we could easily judge their different In-clinations from their appearances. Those from

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the Great Island except Otaeite & two or three more were all black also all the Ohuhahowie & Sedtico people & Some from every Town were black'd. The Northern Deputies being Seated / they [p.359] said they would now tell them what they came about and begged that they would listen with Attention

The Principal Deputy for the Mohawks & Six Nations began. He produced a Belt of white & purple Whampum with Strings of white Beads & purple Whampum fixed to it. He said he supposed there was not a man Present that could not read his talk, the Back Settlers of the Northern Provinces whom he termed the long Knife had without any Provocation come into one of their Towns and murdered their people & the Son of their great Beloved Man, That what was their case one day might be the case of another Nation another Day that His Nation was fighting at this time & that he was sent by them to Secure the Friendship of all Nations for he Considered their Interests as One & that at this time they should forget all their Quarrels among themselves & turn their Eyes & their thoughts one way. The Belt was delivered to Chief Canacuna

The Principal Deputy of the Ottawas produced a white Belt with some purple figures

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they expressed their desire of confirming a last-
-ing Bond of True Friendship with all their Red
Brethern that they were almost constantly at War
one Nation against another, and reduced by de-
-grees while their common Enemies were taking
the Advantage of their Situation, that they were
willing & they hoped every Nation would be the
[p 360] Same to drop all their / former quarrels & to join
in one common cause & that altho the Trade to
their Nation & all the other Northern Nations had
been Stopped, that their Friends the French in
Canada had found means to Supply them &
would Assist them. Johia Canacuna received
this Belt. The Talk of the Nanticoas was much
to the same Effect, he produced a white Belt &
it was received by the Raven

There was only a Boy of the Delaware
Nation.

The Talk was now to be finished by
the Shawnese Deputy formerly (as I am informed)
a Noted French Partizan. He produced a War Belt
about 9 feet long & Six Inches wide of purple
Whampum Strewed over with Vermillion. He be-
-gun with pathetically enumerating the distresses
of his own and other Nations, he complained par-
-ticularly of the Virginians who after having taken

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away all their Lands & cruelly & treacherously treated some of their people had unjustly brought war upon their Nation and destroyed many of their People that in a very few years their Nation from being a great people were reduced to a handfull, that their Nation possessed lands almost to the Sea Shore and that the Red people who were once masters of the whole Country hardly possessed ground enough to Stand on that the Lands where but lately they hunted close to their Nations were thickly Inhabited / and covered with (A 261)
Forts and Armed Men, that wherever a Fort appeared in their Neighbourhood, they might depend there would soon be Towns & Settlements, that it was plain, there was an Intention to Extirpate them & that he thought it better to die like Men than to dwindle away by inches. That their Fathers the French who seemed long dead men were now alive again, that they had supplied them plentefully with Ammunition Arms & provisions and that they promised to assist them against the Virginians, that their Cause was just & that they hoped the Great Being who governs every thing would favour their Cause, that now is the time to begin, that there is no time to be lost and if they fought like Men

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they might Hope to Enlarge their Bounds, that the Cherokees had a Hatchett which was brought in Six Years ago and desired that they would take it up & use it immediately That they intended to Carry their Paths through every Nation to the Southward & that that Nation which should refuse to be their friends on this Occasion Should forever hereafter be Considered as their Common Enemy and that they would all fall on them when Affairs with the White People should be Settled.

The Belt was received by Ishiu Canacina It was some Minutes before any One got up to give his Assent which was to be done by Laying hold of the Belt at last a Headman of Chilhowie who had lived long in the Mohawk Nation & whose [p.362] Wife had / constantly lived in Sir William Johnsons House was the first who rose up to take the Belt from Ishiu Canacina, he Sung the War Song & all the Northern Indians joined in the Chorus, Almost all the Young Warriors from the different Parts of the Nation followed his Example tho many of them expressed their uneasiness at being concerned in a War against the White People But the Principal Chiefs who were averse to the Measure and remembered the Calamities brought on their Nation by the last war, instead of Oppossing

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the readiness of the Young People with Spirit,
Sat down dejected & Silent. The Deputies propos-
-ed that Mr. Croghan & I with all the White
People that were present should take up the
Belt as the Kings Friends among them & all
the French had done, which we refused. We told
them that Indians did not understand our
written Talks & we did not understand their
Beads, nor what were their Intentions, that for
my part I was determined not to give any Sanc-
-tion to a War that was likely to bring destruc-
-tion on their Nation. Especially as I had not
forgot the use that they made of my telling
them that the King should expect their As-
-sistance if it should be asked to bring his
disobedient & Obstinate Children to Order. That
the Virginians when they were not above Half
the number that they are at present had with-
-stood the French & the Combined force / of all [p. 262]
the Indian Nations when they were three, as numer-
-ous as they are at present, and that now they are
in Arms ready to go against the Kings forces that
if they went to war they had no white People to
direct them against their Proper Enemy as the Northern
Tribes had, and if they should go over the Boundary
line or fall on indiscriminately to kill Women & Childre-

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& to attack the Kings friends as well as his Enemies they would draw on themselves all the forces that was intended against the Kings troops & the Resentment of those that Otherwise would have been their Friends, and would have Assisted them. That their Father was willing to support them & Supply them with Ammunition while they paid Regard to our Talks But that we did not yet think it time for them to go out unless they were Certain that there was an Army coming against them and therefore could not give our Consent as it was your desire, that they should remain quiet till they should hear from you Cahatoy delivered this very distinctly The Raven of Chote told them that they would Consider of their Talks before they gave a full answer and a Meeting was appointed next day at Settico, where we were told the Young Fellows expressed a great [p.580] deal of dissatisfaction at our not laying hold of their Belt, and from what we were afterwards informed Passed there & from the Insinuations of one James Branham a half breed who had been in the Settlements & was sent in with a design to injure Mr Cameron, that our lives, & the lives of all the White People of the Nation had been in great danger. Branham told the Indians that Mr

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Cameron had wrote Letters to the Settlements to incense the People against them & bring an Army to destroy them, Some of the Indians repeated what had been said at Fort Charlotte, that I had not forgot the Affair at Bane Creek when you was taken Prisoner and that altho I brought Ammunition I wanted to keep them from going to War till it should fall into the Hands of the Virginians. From hints given the Traders by some of their Friends, they had got in readiness to make their Escape and some of them Slept in the Woods, we treated the Information we had from the Traders with seeming Indifference. Next day we had a Visit from Chinicanacina Painted Black. he asked what was the Reason that all the Indians were preparing to go away & that I was talking of going after I had been in a great Measure [p.365] the means of bringing Trouble on them by writing to the People of Watoga. I told him that I did not know what the Traders intended to do but that when their lives were in danger they could not be expected to Stay, that for my Part I had always said that I would not Stay but untill I should have an Answer to the Express that was sent to Mobille & that as Soon as I could procure Horses I was determined to go whether the Express arrived or

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not That he must know himself to be the Cause if any Trouble was like to come on their Nation and that it did not look well to endeavour to throw the Blame off himself. He told the Interpreter after parting with us that it was agreed among the People in his Island that if any of the White People attempted to go away to follow them but not to bring them back.

Next day the Northern Deputies waited on us and took great Pains to make us sensible that they Assisted the Kings friends, they described their Country & the Situation of the Kings Forts of Niagara & Oswego. They said the Kings Forces and the French acted together and Assisted them. They described the Plan thro' which these Supplies were generally brought to the Lakes which the Rebells had taken Possession of but that they had since dispossessed them. They said the Rebels had told them sometime ago that they looked on the People at Oswego & Niagara as their Prisoners, and would not at that time trouble themselves about them

The Day following Chin Canacina or the Dragging Canoe & all the Headmen came to Mr. Camerons House & all the Traders were ordered to Attend. The Dragging Canoe gave promises for their Safety if they

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stood in the Nation and hoped that they would not for the Future pay any Regard to Idle Dreams That they considered them White People to be the same with themselves, that if any of them inclined to join them in going to War they would be glad but that they would not insist on their going, but that such as did not go to war should bring Supplies & Ammunition They gave a String of Beads. They addressed Mr Cameron as he was to remain among them & told him that they would always Pay Attention to whatever he Advised & gave a String of Beads. I took this Opportunity of putting Chinicancina in mind of what he had said a few days before & made him acknowledge himself before all the Chiefs the Sole Cause of the War. They informed us that the Deputies were to Return without going / to the Lowcohs that they had [p. 347] sent. Messengers with Belts & that they desired the Lower Lowcohs to Assist the Lower Cherokees. and that they had not yet fixed a day for their going out, that they thought of Sending out Scouts that if we would write a Letter to Know what was become of Isaac they would Send it by the Scouts to be fixed up at some Publick Place near the Settlement of Watoga I objected to having anything more to do with writing as they had been Suspicious

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of us on former Occasions, but at last Consented to write in their Name if they would tell me what to write. They desired I would tell them that Isaac Thomas had been sent to them at their own Request with a very kind Message from them, and that they had detained him contrary to what they understood had ever been done among the White People, and that among Indians such a thing never was done in time of War. They desired if he was alive he might be sent back immediately, and if he did not Return they should know what they had Reason to Expect. This was read over to them & approved of, the Scouts were Sent out next morning and a few Miles from Togniah met with Thomas returning He brought us the inclosed Talk from the Committee of Fincastle which so/Exasperated (n360) the Indians, that we had little Hopes after this of being able to restrain them. Isaac Thomas informed us, that there were above Six thousand men in Arms on the Frontiers of Virginia and North Carolina which were intended to have gone to Oppose the Kings Troops but they had determined to Slay & Oppose the Indians. That the Inhabitants of Watoga had Built Forts. That they had marched some Companies to Monatluchkey

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and obliged the Inhabitants who were friends to Government to take an Oath of Neutrality and that they afterwards drumd them out of the Settlement. That those people did not look upon themselves bound by the Oath that was forced on them and were resolved to be Revenged for the affront put on them as Soon as an Opportunity offered. He informed us that the People on Hendersons Purchase had received a Message from the Corn Stalk a Principal Warrior in the Shawnese Nation informing them that an Indian of their Nation Known by the name of Logan with about 14 other Indians were gone to the Cherokees on some bad design, that they would do well to endeavour to lay way & Kill them. That a Trader (whose name I do not recollect) from Virginia had gone into the Shawnese Nation with a View to prevail on Two Hundred of that Nation to come down who they intended to Keep as Security for the Behaviour of the Rest, he heard that they [p.369] had already got some of the Delawares engaged. He declared on Oath that he was informed by several of the Inhabitants of Watoga that a Letter was forged by one Jessy Benton in Mr. Camerons name & so like his hand writing that it would be impossible to Know that it was

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a forgery. That they had given out that it was brought to the House of One Roberts in the night by a Man wrapped up in a Blanket who immediately rode off That it was said to Contain Information that 500 Creeks 500 Chactaws 500 Chickesaws and a Body of Troops from Pensacola with all the Cherokee Nation were immediately to fall on the Frontiers of Virginia & North Carolina, that the Letter was forwarded to North Carolina & Virginia in order to engage their Assistance against the Cherokees. That Evan Shelby read over Second Letter notwithstanding that the Committee of Lincastle take no Notice of it but we find that Shelby is a Party Concerned in the Lands. The forged Letter was forwarded to South Carolina but they thought proper to affix my name instead of Mr Cameron's. We took an Opportunity of representing to the Indians the probability that there was of their being deceived by the Shawnese they seemed to entertain some doubts about them & resolved to wait the 20 Days allowed in the Committees Letter for giving an Answer. The Indians told us that the Great Warrior of the Nation had never yet given his Opinion & they would be obliged to abide by whatever he Should determine—

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whether Peace or War. This gave us Hopes that a War might yet be prevented, about this time we received a Letter from Mr Hamilton wherein he acquaints us That the Tannapin had advised him to come over the Hills for that a Party would be sent from the Settlements to take him out of the Nation. Mr Hamilton asked him if he would not protect him, his answer was that perhaps they might be too Powerfull & that their coming might be attended with bad Consequences, most of the other Indians determined to Stand by him. The People that were Sent for the Cattle & taken Prisoners returned, we imagined that they dreaded the Consequence of offending us, as we were out of their Reach, and therefore they had thought proper to discharge them with leave to bring up 8 Beeves. Andrew Williamson & Wilkinson wrote to Mr Cameron & complained much of the Letter that I was said to have wrote to the People of Watoga threatening the Frontiers of North Carolina & Virginia &. said that if there was an Indian War it would be occasioned by that Letter and by Lies / brought into the Nation [illegible] by Capt. York I wrote a Letter to Mr Wilkinson but I have Reason to think it went no farther than Seneca. The Indians had appointed a Day to get

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the Great Warriors Talk when the time of their going to War was to be finally determined upon and which we understood was to have been put off for a Month or Two, but on the night before they were to have met they received Intelligence from the lower Towns that they were certainly gone out against the Settlements of Carolina &, that they had determind on this Rash Step immediately on the Return of the Deputies who were Sent to hear the Talk of the Northern Indians, that it was occasioned by a Private Talk sent to the Tannapin by a Warrior of Keetoa & Nimitisia Relations of his, Who resented his being very Active in getting Nimitisias Brother who was his Kinsman put to Death as Satisfaction for the Murder of a Whiteman in Virginia. Tashigitihi of Keetoa arrived from the lower Towns & brought a White prisoner with him from little Tshote; he told us that a Party of Twenty four men had come into the Nation under a Pretence of taking away Steel & Pritchard Two Traders whom they understood were Obnoxious to the Indians the Prisoner with another who was left in the lower Towns was sent into Tshote to obtain leave from the Indians to Pass through the Nation, that they were detained & Beat & a Party was sent to attack the

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Others, that they Killed five of them & took all their Horses & Arms & that the Rest had made their Escape, among the Killed was Young Hampton who we had set at Liberty about 20 Days before after having Administered to him at his own desire an Oath of Neutrality.

It was in vain to talk any more of peace, all that could now be done was to give them Strict Charge not to Pass the Boundary line, not to injure any of the Kings faithful Subjects, not to Kill any Women & Children & to stop Hostilities when you Should desire it notwithstanding any Promises to the Contrary given to the Shawnese. All these Instructions they Promised Strictly to Adhere to, and they beggd that I would acquaint you of this and that allthe they had been rash & listened too readily to the Talks of the Northward Indians, That the usage you had Received. The Threats against Mr Cameron. and The Cruelty used to Sir William Johnsons Son, were the Causes that spurred them On & therefore they Hoped that you would not be angry with them nor cast them off. but Continue your [prays] Assistance and Support; They Blamed Schinicana. cina & the Warrior of Chillhowie as the Cause of their beginning before they received your Orders.

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The Indians seemed very inclinable that any of the Kings Loyal Subjects that were at Nonathuchley should be invited to come to them or desired to Assemble themselves together & put up a White Flag. Capt Guest offered to undertake to give them Notice if he could get four White Men that Knew the words and some Indians. The Fist of Settico a very sensible Indian Offered himself with his Nephew who is Interpreter they Sent a Message on this Subject to the Warrior of Couvie. The very night before they were to have Set out the four Men that were Chosen to go Ran away, They were all Virginians which was likely to prove fatal to the people who remained. All the white People in the Nation thought that the only Security they now could have for their Safety, was to go out with the Indians. some went out with the Indians from the Overhills & Middle Settlements & all the Rest offered to accompany Mr Cameron who was to Set out in a few days for the Lower Towns. [illegible] I left the Nation the 12 July when the Toquah & Chote People which were the last Parties in the Nation set out very much dejected which I am informed was the case with the greatest Part of the Nation.

I proceeded to the Creeks & on my way met

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the People that were Sent me with the Shawnese Belt. They had a Letter for Mr Cameron which I found was from Ennistisigue wherein he informs Mr Cameron, that a Belt was brought into his Nation from the Cherokees without any Letter from him, That it seemed to be a Stolen talk, that he did not understand it. he expressd his Surprize that I was not returnd he said if I did not make my Appearance in 21 Days, he should conclude that some Accident had Befallen me, and would go with his people to look for me. He charged them Strictly to take Care of their White People & of the Kings people that might fly there for Protection for if any of them Should be Hurt, he would Stop their Supplies from every Quarter. I told the Creeks that the Cherokees desired their Assistance But that your Orders were that they Should take no Steps till they Should hear from you &, that I would not therefore desire them to go But if / they found any of their people (P. 3751
going in Consequence of Messages they might have from the Cherokees. That he Should Instruct them to go directly to the Nation &, receive Directions from Mr Cameron. The Creeks said they chose to Remain at Home untill they Should have Orders from You. I missed meeting with Colbert Hse

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went to the Cherokee Nation with 100 Horse load of Ammunition & Presents by a different Road. I met with some Cherokees returning Home by whom I sent a Message that I had performed my Promise and would be as punctual in what I now said; that I had heard of the Murder of Davis & His man & could not forget it. That if I Should hear of another being Hurt, or if they neglected after this to hear Mr Cameron's Advice and would listen to the Shawnese that this should be the last Supply that would ever be permitted to go to their Nation from any Quarter that I had taken some Steps to Open a Communication with Pensacola & Mobille through the Different Nations That if they misbehaved a Word of my mouth would Shut it for ever

(Signed) Henry Stuart

[In another hand] Endorsed Mr Henry Stuart's / Account of his / Proceedings with / the Indians. / In Mr Stuart's of / 23d. August 1776. / 18.

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[P.383]

To Occanastota Judge Friend, Ataculllaculla and the Other Chiefs and Warriors of the Cherokee Nation ~

Friends and Brethren.

We the Subscribers, Members of the Comm: mittee of Fincastle County in Virginia, having met this day to Consult on some Letters and News which Lately Arrived from your Nation, and which seems to threaten a breach of that Friendship and Confidence that have so long subsisted Between the Virginians and Our Brothers the Cherokees Have Concluded to write you on this important and Very interesting Subject.

We do Assure you that Nothing Could give us a Greater Pleasure than to Keep the Chain of Friendship, that hath so long linked us togeth: er, bright and Clean; and we are extremely Concerned to find that there is even a distant Probability that it should Contract any Specks of Rust, or that Our Mutual Friendship and Intercourse should by any Means be interrupted especially as we are Not Conscious of the smallest breach on Our part ~ But Brethren, bear with us while we tell you that we Are Apprehensive you have got bad Counsel from Some white Men who live

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amongst You, and who from the Meanest Motives of Interest and Revenge would Urge you on to a War with your best Friends, and in your Greatest Distress would desert you, and the Cause in which they had advised you to engage. They No doubt have endeavoured to persuade you that we are Rebels to the Great King your Father, and for that Reason make you believe that it is your duty to go to War with us: But be assured Nothing Can be farther from the truth, than such Assertions. It is true that an unhappy Difference hath Subsisted between the people beyond the great Water, and the Americans for som Years, which [P 38 M] arose intirely Owing to Some of the great King's Servants who wanted to take Our money with Out Our Consent, and otherwise to treat us, Not like Children, but Slaves, which the people of America will Not submit to. But as this is a Quarrel between Friends, indeed between Parents and and dutiful Children, we hope from the Motives of Justice, Equity and good Policy. No evil designing Men will be able to persuade to join therein.

If the People of Watauga, Nullachuckey or else where have done or attempted to do You any Injustice with Regard to your Lands or hunting Grounds; if they have continued in Possession

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longer than the time agreed on between You and them; If they have settled below the Bounds Allotted them; or if they or we, have wronged or injured you in any Manner as a Nation or as Individuals, would it Not have been More just, prudent and friendly, to have Made a Complaint to Our Great Men Now met at Williams. burgh, . . or to the Commissioners who were appointed to treat with You, where You Might have been sure the strictest Justice would have been done You and all your just Grievances redressed? We say would it Not have been More friendly. than to have warned those people to leave their Homes, on so short a Notice as twenty Days from the time your Agents were in your Behalf: We are sorry to say this unprovoked Conduct so Contrary to your former Behaviour plainly Shews that Your Hearts are Not good, and that You want some pretence to break off all Connection with Your former Friends and Allies.

What now alarms us is, that On the Very Path which Col° Henderson purchased to travel on into the Country you sold him, Some of your people have at different times Killed two of Our Young Men, who were Adventurers into that Very Country for which you had received a Valuable

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consideration. We will willingly believe that those Murders and breaches of public faith, have not been countenanced or even Known, to the Chiefs and Warriors of your Nation, therefore it is expected, and Requested, that You will use every Method in Your Power to find Out the Murderers
[p.385] and/ have them punished by Death in the most exemplary manner to prevent such Murders in time to come and we farther expect that You will use your influence and Authority with your hot-headed Young Men Not to be guilty of such Crimes for the future. for should they go on to Murder and Rob Our people, and in the Most base and Cowardly Manner to Attack innocent Travellers or helpless families, they may be as Sure as the Sun shines they will draw upon them Selves the Vengeance of the Virginians and the Neighbouring Colonies, who will march Armies into Your Country to the destruction and perhaps utter extripation of the Cherokee Nation. For while we have Men, Arms and Ammunition, and we thank the Great God, we have all these; we cannot sit Still and see Our Friends Slaughtered with Out the least Provocation; but as You Are No Strangers to the Evils which Attend a War, with a justly enraged and

powerful people, we would therefore Advise you Not to listen to those bad men who live amongst you, but by all means endeavour to brighten the Chain, to wipe the blood Out of the path and Shake the hand of Friendship (which we Now offer) as we formerly have done and as we hope Our Children will do when we shall be No more. by taking this ad. vice you will enjoy the blessings and bene. fits of Peace. your Nation will increase, and your lands and properties be secured to you and to your posterity for ever. Most of Our Brethren to whom we Now Write are Very Old. how disagreeable dangerous and impoli. tic would it be for you to involve your Coun. try Men in a War with a Powerful people who can make their Own Guns and Am. munition, and travel to your Towns with Waggons in a few days?

To avoid all these Calamities of a distructive War, let us exhort you to send some of your Old men to the great Island that we may have a friendly talk together, and Remove everything that Obstruc Our Mu. tual intercourse, and we hereby promise that they Shall be safely Conducted to and from

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that place, and shall be protected from every Violence whilst there.

We hope that you will send an Answer by the Bearer As soon as Possible, and that he will be treated with that Respect due to a Public Messenger from One Nation to another.

We are Your Friends
and Brothers.

Daniel Smith
William Doack
Andrew Boyd.

Wm Preston Chairman of the Committee
Evan Shelby
W. Inglis
Anthony Bledsoe
Thos. Madison
Stephen Trigg
Johns Montgomery
Walter Crockett.
James Mc Gavock
James Robertson.
Wm Sayers
George Irving
James Mc. Cockle

Endorsed A Talk from the / Committee of Fincastle in / Virginia. / To / The Cherokee Indians / In Mr. Stuart's of / 25d. August 1776. / 20

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N°. 1.) Penzacola 23d. August 1776 (A.29)

My Lord

[I take the Liberty of troubling your Lordship with the inclosed Estimate of Expences incurred and to be incurred in this District in the last and present Years and I humbly begg leave to represent to Your Lordship that the Situation of Indian Affairs and the necessity of keeping the different Nations disposed and ready to act for His Majesty's Service when called upon, and this in Opposition to the Machinations of the Rebells, creates a Very great altho necessary expences.

I have at different times drawn upon Generals Gage and Howe for the Summs mentioned in the inclosed Sketch and I have very great reason to apprehend that my Bills never reached to be presented, but were intercepted: so that I have not been able to fillfull my Engagements of paying for the Goods Contracted for & actually delivered here and at Saint Augustine, but am endebted for a very considerable Sum, upon that Account

As all Commercial Intercourse between this Country and the Northern Provinces is cut off, it is impracticable to raise money here by Bills on the (A.29v) Commander in Chief, without I can be empowered to draw upon the Lords Commissioners of the

Treasury, the Service of my Department cannot be carried on

The Sum Necessary for Defraying the Expence of a Chactaw and Chickasaw Congress will be very considerable, for the whole of both Nations will Attend upon that occasion, the two Meetings of them which I called in 1765 & 1772 with the greatest Attention to Oeconomy cost no less than £6000 Sterling each and as calling them together in the Spring will be unavoidable without disgusting them I cannot expect that the Expences will be less, for provisions never were so Scarce and Dear as they are this Year.

General Blinton has, no Doubt, submitted to your Lordship his plan and the Services that will probably be required of me, which with the Expence of calling together the Creeks and Supplying the Cherokees as well as paying the Additional Number of Officers and persons whom it may be necessary to employ will amount to a considerable Sum. I therefor humbly request your Lordships Representation of these Circumstances to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury and that my Bill in favour of Messrs Graham Johnston & Compa of London may be paid. and that their Lordships will be pleased further to grant me an

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imprest of £12 000 – Twelve thousand pounds
to be paid into the hands of Mr James Graham who
/I have appointed my Agent to receive the same and [2299]
give their Lordships such receipt or obligation as
their Lordships shall think necessary.]

I think it my Duty to acquaint Your Lord.
:ship that in the different Indian Nations within this
District about four hundred good white men Traders and
pack horse men might be emlodyed, who would be ex.
:tremly usefull in carrying on any Service jointly with
the Indians: the Command of whom might if Approv.
:ed of by your Lordship be entrusted to my Commis.
:saries Deputies and their Assistants. such a Body of
men perfectly acquainted with the Manners and Lan.
:guage of the Indians as well as the roads to the
Settlements and every Circumstance in the Neighbour.
:ing Provinces, might I conceive be very usefull and tend
to prevent the disorders and excesses which Bodies of
Indians not conducted by white men might probably
commit, which I humbly submit to Your Lordship

I have the honour of being with the utmost Respect

My Lord / Your Lordship's
Most Obedient & most
humble Servant
John Stuart

Right Honble / Lord George Germaine
One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State &c.

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